

FACTS RELATING Western CANADA



A Western Canadian Farmhouse

A Wheat Field



TRADE RETURNS.
1895 - £46,020,000.
1901 - £78,033,000.

POPULATION OF
WESTERN CANADA
1881 - 120,000.
1901 - 500,000.

160 ACRE
FARMS IN
WESTERN
CANADA
FREE

POPULATION OF
DOMINION OF
CANADA
5,500,000.

Grain Yield
100,000,000. Bushels.
1901.

Issued by the
Department of the Interior
from the Office of the
HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA
M.W.T.R. PRESTON,
Commissioner of Emigration,
17, VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON, S.W.



A Western Canada Farmstead.

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BEAUTIFUL WESTERN CANADA.

THE AMERICAN SETTLERS POURING INTO THE COUNTRY
BY THOUSANDS.

AND THEY PRONOUNCE IT BEAUTIFUL. THEY HAVE LOVELY HOMES AND ALL ARE PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY.

HERE is no doubt that more attention has been directed to Canada during the past few years than to any other portion of the American Continent. In that time more has become known of the resources of the Country, its great possibilities have become certainties, its advantages for the Settler and for the Capitalist are now widely known, and on every hand there is an intense interest exhibited in all that pertains to the developed as well as to the undeveloped portions of the great Dominion. The time has passed

the article he produces, the farmer of Canada ranks easily at the head; the cattle industry is one of immense proportions and Canadian Cattle take their place among the best in the land.

When it comes to minerals it is no longer a question as to where Canada stands as she holds a precedence over all other parts of the Continent. The output of gold, silver, iron, copper, lead, and all other valuable minerals is very great.

Timber is a chief requisite, and in all parts of the Dominion there has been a



A Western Canada Farm—Town in the distance.

when the climate is looked upon as something to be avoided; now that the benefits of the Canadian climate are becoming to be somewhat realised, Canada is no longer associated with an interminable winter.

The fruit grower of other parts fully appreciates the competitor that Canada has proven to be; the grower of grain has satisfied himself that for the perfect quality of

providing hand, there being large tracts of the very best quality in all the Provinces.

There is no better paying industry on the Continent—on the face of the Globe, in fact—than that of the Fishing Industry of Canada. Manufacturers find a ready market for all that the factories can produce, and so we might continue.

Canada enjoys most exceptional advan-

tages ; poets have sung and authors written of the beauties, the glories, the realities of Canada, but these praises when placed side by side with the matter of fact evidence of those who have selected Canada as their home, they convey but faintly the true situation.

Taking Western Canada, for instance ; that portion in which lies the vast Province of Manitoba, the immense and fertile districts of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and passing from settlement to settlement, interviewing the residents, there is found the one prevailing sentiment of contentment and satisfaction.

Many of the settlements are described by an enthusiastic visitor as "Gems of Sylvan Beauty," but, he says, "There, beauty cannot be recorded by the camera in a comprehensive way."

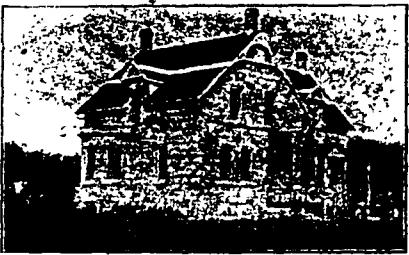
It will not be out of place here to give some idea of the early settlement of a portion of that country, not to go back to nearly a hundred years ago when Lord Selkirk came in by way of Hudson Bay and established his settlements, but to a very much later date when it became known to the people of the east that in what had been looked upon as the Great Unknown Land, there lay a great future for Canada, and a magnificent inheritance for those who chose to make a home there. The rich soil was abundant in the chemicals that produce grasses and grains, thus offering every inducement to the new settler although he might have to traverse thousands of miles of almost barren country to reach it.

It did not matter to him that he had to run the risk of having his crops ruined by the tens of thousands of Buffalo that made their home on these plains. He knew that where the Buffalo existed and fattened his own cattle could live and thrive ; the same soil that could produce such magnificent grasses would yield bountifully in wheat and oats and barley, and the new settler was correct.

That reference is to a period of less than twenty-five years ago, up to which time very little was made known to the outside world of the vast resources that lay hidden in the earth and in the soil of Western Canada. The great Hudson Bay Company, a company of traders, anxious to retain the country for their own people to prevent the despoiling of the vast hunting grounds, their preserves of furred game, did not allow any particulars of the fertility of the plains to become known outside. They, however, were fully aware

of it, for at that time their factors were growing most excellent wheat, nearly a thousand miles north of the northern boundary between the United States and Canada. But not a word of this reached the ears of the outside world until a quarter of a century ago.

The impression was sent out and credence given to it, that the country was almost uninhabitable, that the winters were interminable, that the cold was severe, that summer weather was not known and the hardships taxed the greatest endurance of human beings ; but once it became known that the prairies and uplands were so wonderfully productive, that the winters were not severe, that the summer was delightful and the climate health-



A Western Canada Farm House

ful and beneficial, it was not long before there was a movement of land hunters in that direction.

An old timer who was a resident of '75, writing of that period, says "The vast plain to which I have referred, extending from the boundary line to the Boyne, and from Pembina Mountain to Red River, comprising some of the best land in the north-west, and is probably the largest section of contiguous good land in the province. In '75 the few settlers at Pembina Mountain fondly hoped that in the course of fifteen or twenty years this plain would become settled notwithstanding the absence of timber. Before the summer was over, a long line of camp fires, extending for miles and miles, announced one evening to the lonely settlers that six thousand Mennonites had located on seventeen townships. It is '79 now and farms on that plain are as hard to get, and are as valuable, as our much vaunted timber claims along the mountain, and west, a hundred miles to Turtle Mountain, rolls the tide of immigration."

From that time on there has been more

or less of an influx of population, railroads have been constructed, new districts have been opened up, the valley of the Saskatchewan, the plains and prairies of the Assiniboina have added their hundreds of thousands of acres of wonderfully productive land to that of Manitoba, homes of prosperous and contented settlers are scattered throughout that vast territory.



A Western Canada Barn, near Indian Head, Assa.

At the present time there are immense colonies located in different parts and all are successful. The growth and advancement that have been made in the past four or five years is remarkable.

The efforts of the Government of the Dominion, the officers of which have charge of the settlement of the country, have been directed to securing a good class of settlers from the United States, especially from the western part.

It was thought, and correctly too, that the men who had already pioneered in those states would succeed quickly in Western Canada. The result is, that of the 70,000 that have gone to the farms of Western Canada during the past few years, the greatest success has followed their efforts, and not a discontented word has been heard from any.

As is pointed out in the departmental publications, the success of farming in Canada is now positively assured, and the Canadian Government feel no hesitation in placing before the people of Great Britain and Ireland the advantages that Canada possesses for the agriculturist, and the man who, with a desire to improve his condition, is willing that his energies should be devoted to a farm life. As a result of the efforts that have been made this spring to bring to the attention of the

people in the old country these advantages, a great number of excellent settlers decided to risk their fortunes in the new land, and are now settled on farms, where in a short time they will be well on the highway to having comfortable homes.

A great deal of information about Western Canada will be found in this pamphlet, which heretofore has not been given in previous departmental publications.

Limitless Field for Settlement.

The field for settlement in Western Canada is practically limitless. In the year 1888 the Dominion Government of the day appointed a committee of the Senate to investigate the character of the northern half of Western Canada, that lying above the Saskatchewan River; and, after receiving and examining a vast amount of evidence bearing on the subject, the committee concluded that in the district between Hudson Bay and the Rocky Mountains there was a region of 300,000 square miles adapted to the growth of wheat, another 100,000 adapted to the growth of barley; and yet 200,000 square miles more adapted to the growth of potatoes. South of the Saskatchewan watershed there is a wheat-growing territory, roughly speaking, of 270,000 square miles. Altogether the wheat-growing area north and south of the



Another Farmhouse in Western Canada.

Saskatchewan reaches the enormous figure of 570,000 square miles, a territory which is about equal to France and Germany put together, countries sustaining without difficulty a population approximating a hundred millions. Mr. John Carlton, M.P., recently estimated that not one-eighthieth

of the land, well adapted to the growth of wheat, was under cultivation last year, and yet the export of wheat exceeded 30,000,000 bushels. Putting the above named area of 570,000 square miles into acreage, we find there are 364,000,000 acres, equal to 2,250,000 farms of 160 acres each. But, cutting the wheat-growing area down, by liberal paring, to 250,000,000 acres, we still have sufficient for 1,500,000 farms of 160 acres, or a population easily reaching ten millions, without the towns and cities which would certainly spring up all through this vast agricultural region. Thus, there would appear to be little reason to fear overcrowding in Western Canada for many generations to come, no matter how fast the settlers come to those fertile prairies.

Educational Facilities.

All the Advantages of Settled Government.

General conditions of life in Manitoba and the territories are naturally becoming

more favourable every year. The hardships of real pioneering will speedily be ended for all but the most remote districts. Already every important centre has railway communication, and railway construction is in progress in every direction to increase these facilities and to give the settlers whatever benefit lies in competition. All the advantages of settled government, of course, prevail throughout the west, and these include a system of rural schools which eminent educationists consider the equal of any on the continent. In Manitoba the rural schools are about three miles or so apart in the settled districts, and the system is free. There is no taxation of pupils for attendance. The Government makes an annual grant to each school, and this, added to local taxation, pays all expenses, including the salary of the teacher. In the villages a higher grade of education is given than in the country, and in the cities and towns, it is unnecessary to remark, the educational privileges are still further improved.

FUEL.

Coal and Wood Areas are sufficient for several Generations.

THE question of fuel is, of course, one of considerable interest to the settler. It is settled in different ways in different parts of the west. The settler in Alberta, Assiniboia and Saskatchewan is the most favoured, he being able to go to the banks of the rivers and get all the coal he requires, in some cases at the bare cost of handling and hauling it home. Between Red River and the Rocky Mountains, it is estimated, there are some 65,000 square miles of coal-bearing strata, and extensive collieries are now operated at

Canmore, Lethbridge, Edmonton, and Anthracite in Alberta, while the coal in the Souris Valley is being opened up, with excellent results for the general population of Manitoba. Anthracite for the residents of Manitoban cities has still to come from south of the line, and is consequently high in price, but the cheaper soft coal of the country and wood are used extensively by the poorer classes in the cities, and almost exclusively in the rural parts of the province.



Tennis Court and Lawn on a Farmstead in the Rounthwait District.

TAXATION LOW.

Household Goods, Stock and Personal Effects Exempt.

AS to Taxes, the rate is very low throughout Western Canada, except where the settlers have voluntarily assumed burdens for the special development of certain localities, and is light indeed compared with the conditions found in either Europe or the United States. In Manitoba the average taxes for a quarter section (160 acres) do not exceed £2 10s. od. for all purposes; and in Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan they will not average more than half that amount. The stock, implements, household goods, and all other

personal effects belonging to the settler, as well as farm buildings and other improvements, are exempt. The municipal system of Manitoba is based on that of the older provinces; and the territories, as municipalities are formed, follow on the same lines. A Reeve and six Councillors transact the business of a rural municipality, levying and collecting taxes, forming and readjusting school districts, and building, constructing and repairing roads and bridges.



Elevators and Mill, Indian Head, Assiniboia.

ELEVATORS AND FLOUR MILLS ARE PLENTIFUL IN WESTERN CANADA.

ALL the leading towns and villages of the west have large flour mills, the total output of these being from nine to ten thousand barrels per day, while the elevators for the handling of grain are scattered thickly through the settled regions, and, including those at the outlets of Fort William and Port Arthur, comprise a total capacity of 18,282,000 bushels. New elevators are, however, being arranged for at various points, in view of the heavy crop and the confident anticipation of greatly increased yields in the immediate future.

Threshing was hardly able to keep up with the monster crop of last year, and

was still actively proceeding well on in November, the wheat suffering nothing by the delay, if properly stacked. The railways recognised readily the identity of their interests with those of the farmers, and carried the threshing outfits from point to point, either free or at a nominal charge. On the whole it will be evident to the reader that, while offering homes to a practically unlimited number of industrious, intelligent men, Western Canada affords the new-comer, at the same time, the privileges and advantages of well-ordered government and a sound and healthy social system.

SPLENDID MARKETS.

Best Facilities Afforded for Handling Grain.

THE markets for all the products of the field are excellent and at prevailing prices soon yield a return that pays for the land, labour and improvements. Bishop Levi Harker, of Magrath, Alberta, bought 240 acres of land at \$3 an acre and fenced the land with a barbed wire fence and cedar posts; he ploughed and cultivated 45 acres of the land and the crop



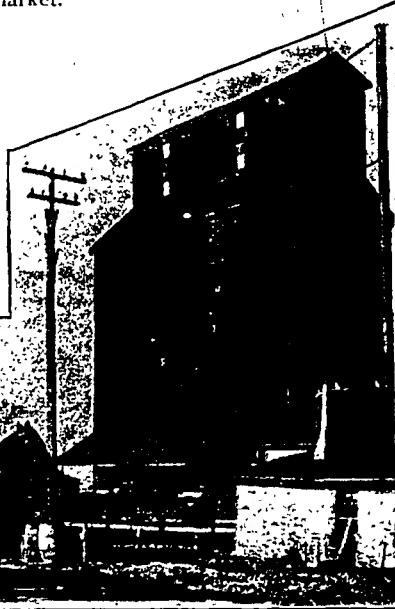
Range Cattle.

gathered from the 45 acres paid for the land, fencing, cultivation and seed, leaving a net profit, after paying all the expenses of this 240 acre plot, of £150.

There is an unlimited market for fat cattle on the western coast, the great mining districts of British Columbia, which adjoin Alberta to the west, and especially in Europe, at a rate that will abundantly satisfy investors.

Southern Alberta range cattle are looked upon most favourably in the English markets.

The old adage and advice, not to put all the eggs in one basket, applies to farming in Western Canada as well as elsewhere, and the farmer who not only raises wheat, but grows other grains, and has around him his herds of cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry, is as near the achievement of success as it is possible to get. Horses and cattle thrive remarkably well on the prairie farms of Western Canada, and in proportion to the number kept there is probably more high-class stock there than in any other part of America. Some most valuable stallions are to be found there, very many of which are direct importations from Europe. Cattle in increasing numbers are to be met with all over the prairie. Almost every class of fine-bred cattle is to be seen, among which may be mentioned Shorthorns, Galloways, Herefords, Jerseys and Holsteins. The export of beef cattle is very large, but owing to the demand in the mining districts of British Columbia and the Yukon there is a splendid home market.

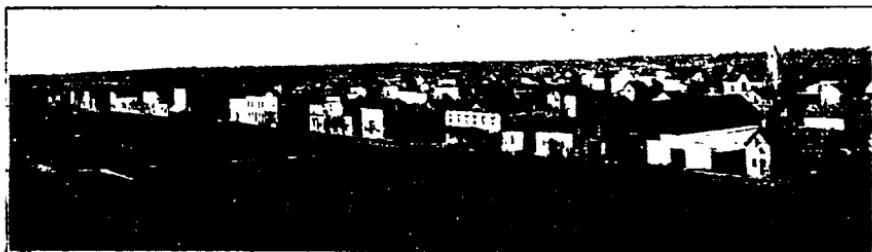


Hauling Grain to Elevators at Brandon.



THE BUILDING UP OF A NEW COUNTRY.

Great Satisfaction in Watching its Growth, while your Farms are Rapidly Increasing in Value.



Glenboro', Manitoba, Looking N.E.

HERE is something about the opening up of a new country that is specially attractive, and it is a pleasure to be able to look out from your own home and see the country being settled by thrifty and prosperous farmers on all sides. A newspaper correspondent, who visited Western Canada for the purpose of advising his paper on the growth of the country, describes his trip on a train that was carrying into one of the new districts some five or six hundred settlers, and after relating conversations with several of his fellow-passengers, he says: "The train was making good progress up the line. We had passed out of the ranching country and into the region of farming lands. Here it was that we began to strike new towns. It was odd to see the little places springing up on the prairie, for the timbered country was still to the north. We saw the towns actually making. We heard the hammer, saw and chisel plying wherever the train stopped, saw the piles of fresh-cut lumber lying at every siding waiting to be fashioned into stores and residences, hotels and schoolhouses. Half finished buildings were seen on every hand. Builders and carpenters, painters, and even decorators were at work all around. Many of the new buildings are quite elaborate pieces of architecture, and are neatly finished. Everywhere are visible strenuous activity, energy, confidence, and the beginnings of a sound prosperity."

"Here is a town. Barely two years ago it was but a flag station. Now there are 400 people there, and it has every appear-

ance of a flourishing little country town, with a row of well-filled stores, a schoolhouse, one hotel at least that would do credit to any town in the east, as well as several smaller ones."

Continuing, he says: "Or take Didsbury. Didsbury has not yet been heard of in the east. But give it time. Last spring there was no Didsbury. But settlement began around a siding of that name. Somebody put up a tent, and the town was started. Lumber was shipped in, carpenters, painters, and glaziers followed, and by fall the town is made. Not that Didsbury has finished itself. By no means. There is no limit to its ambition."

As with Didsbury and Ponoka, so with numerous other similar towns.

"The extraordinary development is of course the one subject of discussion all the way up the line, and there is a general conviction that, great as have been the results during the past year or two, they are but the beginning of a still more remarkable movement of population into this region. There are various estimates made of the number who may be expected in during the coming year. I have heard none coming from a responsible source that put the numbers below fifty thousand. The farmer who becomes simply a wheat grower has a bigger crop than he can conveniently and quickly harvest, and takes chances of loss which are entirely unnecessary. The wheat produced is frequently equal to No. 1 Manitoba hard, and is always of good grade. As to the oats, they are simply the best in the world, and run up to a hundred bushels an acre."

A WESTERN PIONEER.

For Forty Years he has been Preaching in Western Canada.

THE correspondent before referred to, in continuing his interesting letters, says: "The whole vast region is teeming with evidences of progress, with hope, with abundance of achievement and with the ebullient energy of youth, strength, confidence and ambition.

"For forty-one years I have been preaching in the west, and only now are Canadians awaking to its greatness," said the Rev. John MacDougall, the famous Methodist, who has almost equalled the aged French missionary, Father Lacombe, in his length of service in the far west. I had met him on the train going west to his home at Calgary, a city many hundreds of miles from any white settlement when he first came to the country to minister to the Indians. Many interesting stories Mr. MacDougall entertained his fellow-travellers with regarding those early days, when the Indian and the buffalo still divided those vast plains between them. He had been lately lecturing in England on Canada, and he sketched briefly his usual manner of introducing his lecture."

"First," said he, "I mention the Maritime Provinces, refer briefly to their great wealth in lumber and fisheries, and point out that they alone are about equal in area to the United Kingdom, with a total population of less than a fortieth. Then I pass rapidly on to Quebec, touch on its thrilling history, and its immense extent, two or three times that of all Great Britain and Ireland, and tell of its industrious population of a million and a half, and of its thriving commerce and great manufacturing centres. But I do not linger on these. I pass further west to Ontario. I tell of the populous peninsula with its fertile farms and prosperous cities, and I tell of the older settlements of the east, and of the vast rich lands of new Ontario hungering for population to cultivate them. Still I go west and tell them of Manitoba; that it, too, is as big as England and Ireland and Scotland added together, and I tell them of the magnificent development that has taken place there during twenty years, and of the millions of acres there that are yet untouched by the plough." "Then," continued the robust old missionary, "I take a jump of a thousand miles, and land with my audience right on the Rocky mountains. I tell them briefly

of the marvellous beauties of the mountain scenery and of the noble rivers and fertile valleys of the Pacific Province, with its area equalling that of France and Great Britain and Ireland, and I tell them of its magnificent wealth in minerals and timber and fish, and of the tiny population that is there to enjoy all this wealth."

"Then," said the speaker dramatically, "I take a halt. I tell my audience that I have not yet begun my lecture on Canada. I ask them to fix their minds on the vast territory, a thousand miles square, lying east of the Rocky Mountains and north of the international boundary, and then I proceed to tell them about Canada, the real Canada, the great boundless west. I tell them of the fertility of its soil, of the

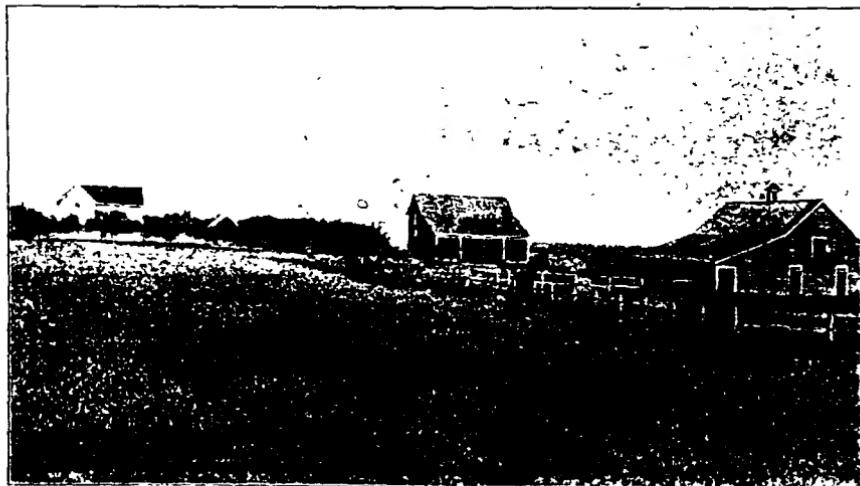


House in a Western Canada Town.

magnificence of its climate, of the richness of its harvests, of the gold and the coal in its river banks, of the fish in its waters, of the rolling prairies, of the great wooded regions lying north of the prairies, and of the immense areas that yet remain untouched and almost unknown. I talk to them for an hour about this great country," said Rev. Mr. MacDougall eloquently, "and when I have finished I feel that I have not begun to tell them the wonderful story of the west, and I tell them that, too. But I have done something to make the west known," he added reflectively, "I have seen some development, too, only it is nothing to what it must be. I want to see two or three great transcontinental railways running through the Canadian west and people pouring into the country 600 miles north of where we find them now, where you will find wheat growing

as well as in Manitoba, and a milder climate. Ah! you don't understand how I love the west," concluded Mr. McDougall, with a sigh of pleasure. If one who knows the west as does this eminent clergyman admits his inability to do justice to more than some phases of its manifold greatness, the visitor of but a few weeks may be pardoned for touching only on the most striking features of the moment, such as I have outlined above. There is material for volumes in tracing the beginning and the prosperous development of the individual settlements, and showing how, everywhere, moving

amongst all and gradually amalgamating and assimilating all, is found the restless, eager, tireless, plodding, yet dominating, Anglo-Saxon. But looking at the actual achievements of the moment, the movement which above all others in the west to-day is exciting interest and wonder from Winnipeg to Edmonton is the great migration from the western States, as well as Great Britain and Ireland into Canada, a stream of settlement which, beginning as a fitful rivulet, less than half a decade ago, has reached already the volume of a river, and promises to swell to even many times its present size before subsiding.



Farm in Western Canada on which the wheat was grown which won the World's prize at the Chicago Exposition.

WHY DOES CANADA GET THE SETTLERS FROM THE UNITED STATES?

IS a question that is frequently asked in the Old Country. For a number of years there was a large migration to the Western or prairie States, land was secured at low figures, and those who were fortunate to get them soon became wealthy, owing to the splendid crops and to the consequent appreciation of land values. Incidentally, this is being repeated in Western Canada. Five or six years ago the American people were rudely awakened to the fact that their vacant fertile lands had been practically exhausted. Vast sections of territory still remained unin-

habited, it is true, but the greater part of such lands had been found almost valueless for agricultural purposes. The presence of many great cities in the western States had given a fictitious value to the lands in their vicinity in many cases, and the man whose capital consisted chiefly or wholly of his labour, found himself but little better off in the United States than he would have been in Europe. The terrible rush for the new lands opened up in Oklahoma and the Indian Territory was a vivid demonstration of this fact, and showed that the United States could do

little or nothing more in the way of caring for the surplus population of the Old World. More than this, even! The fact that on the opening up of these territories there was no less than 16 applications for every homestead offered showed that there were many thousands of Americans themselves of agricultural bent who were dissatisfied with conditions in their own country and eager to improve them. Many of them were the sons of the older generation of western farmers, eager for new land to break, and unable longer to stand the strain of the prices to which it has too often risen in the western States, reaching in some agricultural sections of Illinois to the extravagant figure of £21 per acre. Many were men who had never

owned land of their own, but had paid high rent hopelessly for years; others were native Canadians who had been induced years ago to leave their own country for altogether imaginary conditions over the border. It was these men, eager for easier and happier conditions of life, under which they could hope to extract ultimately more than a bare and toilsome subsistence from the mother earth they cultivated, that the Canadian Minister determined to lead into the Canadian west, that vast country of which the boundless possibilities are even now but faintly grasped by Canadians themselves. How well he has succeeded in his momentous undertaking the country is learning every day.



A Western Canada Homestead—"Making a Garden."

LOOKING OVER THE COUNTRY.

Agriculturists, Financiers and Business Men Buying Land in Western Canada.

IT has been pointed out that upwards of seventy thousand persons have gone from the United States into Canada, during the past six years, and this is advanced as one of the strongest endorsements that can be given the value of the agricultural lands of Canada. It is scarcely necessary to advise the reader that these people took no chance when they changed their place of residence. Delegates were sent representing farmers' clubs and agricultural bodies of various kinds in the western States. They went

for the express purpose of spying out the land and reporting to the bodies sending them. During the past year there were no fewer than 400 such delegates. They included all classes of practical men, agriculturists, financiers, members of Legislatures and business men, and were piloted in small groups into every section of the west. Financial men, managers of loan and investment companies, went with the idea of buying land for settlers from their own localities, whom they have actually in view, and who will require

some financial assistance in getting on the land. In this way the financial corporation gets frequently a six or seven per cent investment with good security, as against a three per cent. investment at home. As to the proportion of the so-called "Americans" coming into the country, there were four times more of "returning Canadians" among them during the last fiscal year than during any preceding year, and without being able to make any accurate calculations on this precise point, it might be said that fully one-third of the incomers from the States are former Canadians. A fair proportion of these repatriated Canadians, also, are French-Canadians, and are settling in Manitoba and in the French-Canadian settlements in the vicinity of Edmonton.

Attitude of Americans.

It might not be uninteresting to the old country reader to learn that, as to the

attitude of the Americans proper who come to Canada, strangers to Canadian laws and technically foreigners, I have already described what I saw of it in the Edmonton district. They find that Canada is a foreign country in name only to them. Instead of being treated as foreigners they find themselves welcomed as brothers. In place of arbitrary laws of seclusion, they find fewer restrictions even than Canadians have found in going to the United States. The one thing on which all American settlers comment after having spent some time in this country is the superior enforcement of laws on this side. Generally speaking, the Department keeps in touch with the new arrival for a year, encouraging him and advising him to the utmost extent of its power during that period. At the end of a year the emigrant is usually on his feet. If, however, exceptional circumstances have hindered him, he will continue to find a friend and adviser in the Department.

A VAST EXTENT OF TERRITORY.

IT is desired to impress the reader with the fact that in Western Canada there is abundance of room for all who wish to make it their home, and while it has been referred to before in these pages, it is thought advisable to deal with it more fully, and a few words regarding the vast extent of territory thrown open to settlement may not be out of place. In the first place, Manitoba alone, with a population of less than 300,000, has an area of 116,000 square miles, a fraction only under that of the United Kingdom. This population has practically all come in since 1870, when the total figure reached only ten thousand, chiefly Indians or half-breeds. The white population of 215 at Fort Garry in 1870 has grown to 48,000 in 1901 in the metropolitan city of Winnipeg. This rapid growth, with the uprising of so many flourishing towns and cities, has caused many people to imagine that Manitoba is already filled up, but this is far from being the case. In the Red River Valley of Manitoba there are in round numbers 2,800,000 acres, of which up to date only 550,000 have ever been cultivated. Again south of the main line of the Canadian Pacific down to the boundary of North Dakota, west of the Red River Valley, there are 4,600,000 acres, of which not more than 800,000 acres have been settled. North of the Canadian Pacific, again, within reach of railways, is another territory of 4,600,000

with only 500,000 acres cultivated. These vast vacant plains include some of the best land in the Province, at prices from ten to twenty shillings per acre?

How Does Farming Pay ?

On the whole the question may be asked, how does farming in Western Canada pay? The splendid profits there are in wheat are well-known, looking at the relative cost of production and selling price. Here is the matter, however, presented in the concrete, being the exact financial results, as nearly as by careful estimates they could be obtained, of 7 3-4 years' farming:—

	Value on Taking Possession.	Value After Period Named.
Land	£135 0	£393 0
Buildings	7 0	95 12
Fences	1 8	28 4
Implements	11 0	80 16
Produce on hand	3 0	35 12
Live stock of all kinds	51 0	187 12
		£208 8
		£820 16
		208 8
Gain in 7 3-4 years.. ..		£612 8

Being an average increase of over £87 yearly.

Cost of Growing an Acre.

This estimate, it should be said, is not a matter of conjecture, but the result of careful investigation made by the Superintendent of the Experimental Farm at Brandon of the cost of growing an acre of wheat. This is the result of an actual experiment on a yield of twenty-nine bushels. The items of cost are given as follows :—

	s. d.
Ploughing once	5 0
Harrowing twice	0 10
Cultivating twice	1 8
Seed	3 0
Drilling	0 11
Binding	1 4
Cord	0 10
Stooking	0 8
Stacking	2 5
Threshing	5 0
Teaming to market, 4 miles ..	1 5
Two years' rent, or interest on land valued at \$13 per acre, at 6 percent... ..	7 3
Wear and tear of implements ..	0 10

£1 11 2

What is said as to the cost of raising wheat in Manitoba is equally true of the



Western Canada's Golden Grain.

territories. A further illustration of the profits of wheat growing is scarcely necessary, but it may be remarked that there are scores of cases where farmers have paid the entire purchase money of their farms from

the product for that year, and in many cases have had money left with which to make a payment for an additional purchase of land.

Other Resources than Wheat.

While "wheat is King," it must, however, be remembered that it is by no means the only cereal grown in Western Canada. The crops of oats, barley and peas are wonderful, and the growth prodigious. Oats have yielded all the way from 60 to 90 bushels per acre, and in some cases have been known to exceed a hundred. Take barley



A Western Canada Farmstead.

again. Owing to the bright sunshine and the absence of rain usually during harvest the barley of Western Canada presents a bright appearance and is sought after by brewers everywhere, bringing several cents a bushel more than that grown in other countries. Peas, too, yield splendidly, and are entirely free from grubs and bugs. These grains are used for fattening hogs and other feeding purposes, and are in every way superior to corn. Experts say that the absence of hog cholera in this country is due largely to the excellent feed, corn not being used. Corn, however, grows splendidly here, attaining sometimes a height of ten or twelve feet. It is sometimes used by farmers for fodder and ensilage, but, generally speaking, wheat pays so much better that comparatively little attention is paid to the cultivation of Indian Corn.

Religious Advantages.

No territory can be a wholly desirable place unless the religious and educational requirements of the settlers are satisfied, and Manitoba, notwithstanding its youth, is abundantly supplied with churches, schools and colleges. The Canadians are essentially a religious people.

Educational.

Under the British North America Act of 1867, the right to legislate on matters respecting education was placed in the hands of the governments of the several

provinces, the rights and privileges of denominational and separate schools then existing being specially protected. In Ontario, the province which possesses one of the finest educational systems in the world, the total number of pupils registered in 1897 was 482,777, and the average attendance was 273,544, the proportion of attendance out of the registered number of pupils being very nearly the same (53.96 to 56.66) in the new province of Manitoba as in the long established Province of Ontario. This shows that the educational wants of the people are being attended to and thoroughly appreciated. In 1897 there were in Manitoba four provincial Normal School teachers, nine local Normal School teachers, with an attendance of 143 pupils at the long and 101 pupils at the short sessions. In addition to the common schools and Normal Schools, Collegiate Institutes for more advanced education are attached to the Public Schools at Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, and Brandon, and the total number of pupils enrolled for the year was 554, 86, and 178 respectively. There is also a Normal School in Winnipeg for the training of teachers. The total school receipts for 1897, from government grants and municipal taxes, were £170,000, of which £91,600 went to the teachers as salaries.

The most valuable immigration agents are the railways built to and through a sparsely settled country. The life of Manitoba began with the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway, which was begun in 1881 and was completed four years later. Then immigration began to pour into Manitoba, at first principally from Ontario, but later on from the outer world. In 1898, Manitoba had 1,621 miles of track laid, or an area of 45.6 square miles of territory to each mile of track laid. Manitoba has 3.2 per cent of the population of the Dominion, but she has 9.6 per cent of the railway miles of Canada. The railway mileage of the Prairie Province is wonderful in comparison to its population. Nearly every farming district is within easy access of one of the lines of railway, while branches are being extended as the conditions of settlement demand. While it is possible in some cases, that in order to secure the advantage of free homesteads, it may be necessary to go some little distance from the railway, the policy of the government is to push forward the construction of colonization lines, so that in a very short time even the new settlements will have the advantage of railway facilities.

Considering the immense advantages offered by Western Canada as a field for the immigrant, it will be naturally asked upon what conditions can he obtain land.

Land Regulations.

The information provided by the government is explicit. Under the Dominion Land Regulations, all surveyed even-numbered sections (excepting 8 and 26) in Manitoba and the North-West Territories, which have not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood-lots for settlers, or otherwise disposed of or reserved, are held exclusively for homesteads. A homestead entry for one-quarter section (160 acres) of surveyed agricultural land, open to such entry, may be obtained by any person who is the sole head of a family, or by any male who has attained the age of eighteen years, on application to the local agent of Dominion lands, and on payment of an office fee of £2. The homesteader must perfect his entry by beginning actual residence on his homestead and the cultivation of a reasonable portion within six months of the date of entry, unless entry shall have been made on or after the first day of September, in which case residence need not commence until the first day of June following, and continue to live upon and cultivate the land, for at least six out of every twelve months for three years from the date of perfecting the homestead entry. In the event of a homesteader desiring to secure his patent within a shorter period than the three years provided by law, he will be permitted to purchase his homestead at the Government price at the time of entry, on furnishing proof that he has resided on the land for at least twelve months from the date of his perfecting his homestead entry, and that he has brought at least thirty acres under cultivation.

A homestead settler, whose land is destitute of timber, can, upon the payment of a fee of one shilling procure from the Crown timber agent a permit to cut the following quantities of timber free of dues: 3,400 lineal feet of building timber, 400 roof poles, and 500 posts. Any settler can obtain a permit, upon the payment of the same fee, to cut falling timber for fuel or fencing for his own use. Leases of grazing lands in Manitoba and the Northwest can be obtained at an annual rental of one penny an acre. The leases are granted for a period not exceeding twenty-one years, and no single lease covers a greater area than 100,000 acres. The

lessee is obliged, within each of the three years from the date of granting of the lease, to place upon the land not less than one-third of the whole amount of stock which is required to be placed upon the land leased, namely, one head of cattle for every 20 acres of land covered by the lease, and shall, during the rest of the term, maintain cattle thereon in that proportion. After placing the prescribed number of cattle upon his leasehold, the lessee may purchase land within the tract leased for a house, a farm or a corral.

It will be seen from these regulations that the Canadian Government is no hard task-master. Immigrants are required for the development of the Dominion, and land is offered on the most liberal terms to those who desire to start life in a country that offers a home and a prosperous

future to all those who have sturdy arms and industrious habits.

It will be well to bear in mind that no question of naturalization arises in connection with the emigration of British subjects to Canada. Settling in the Dominion makes no more change in this respect than the removal from the provincial town to London, Dublin, or Edinburgh, and the newly-arrived immigrant has all the privileges of his Canadian-born fellow-subject. As regards foreigners, the Canadian laws are very liberal. The stranger can at once transact any business and hold real estate without being naturalized, and by residing three years in the country and taking the oath of allegiance, he becomes a naturalized British subject, and acquires political and all other rights.

THE CLIMATE OF WESTERN CANADA.

Very few Storms—Delightful Atmosphere, and a Perfect Health-Giver.



Typographical View of Farm, near Brandon, from the North.

CONTRARY to preconceived ideas and reports industriously promulgated the climate of Manitoba is much milder and decidedly healthier than several States of the American Union further south. This, at first sight, anomalous condition, is partly due to the country being drier in winter, and not so far above the level of the sea. The winter is dry and bracing, not like the raw and chilly cold that prevails in countries in more southern longitudes, with an average temperature a few degrees higher. Even in Manitoba a south-western wind at zero produces a greater sensation of cold than a clear, sunny day when the thermometer reads

25 degrees below. Manitoba has fewer stormy days in the year than perhaps any other point on the American continent. Windy days are very rare, cyclones and tornados are unknown, and the fluctuations from intense cold to sudden thaw have no existence.

It may be a fact not generally known, and a little startling at first mention, that comparatively little snow falls on the prairies, the average depth being eighteen inches, and horses, cattle and sheep graze out nearly all winter. The snow leaves the ground early, and ploughing begins before the middle of April. The average mean temperature of Manitoba in summer

is 60° i degrees. Mr. S. E. Dawson, in his "Handbook of Canada," referring to the climate of Manitoba says: "It seems strange that there should ever have been a question concerning the climate of a country which the buffalo—an animal without political prejudices—has for unknown ages selected as his winter home. Lord Milton and Dr. Cheadle report that their horses, turned out in the fall upon the open prairie, were caught in the spring, so well nourished that they were like balls of fat. At St. Paul, Minn., and on the Peace river, the spring opens at the same date. The navigation of the Red river is open as early as that of the St. Lawrence, and the Red river is generally open ten days before the Erie Canal in New York."

The climate of Manitoba is similar to that of Minnesota and North Dakota, while that of Alberta is much milder. The winters are of the same duration, and the temperatures the same. Live stock can run out all winter without injurious effects. The snowfall is comparatively light; last winter autumn-like weather prevailed until the middle of January, and but little snow had fallen. The summer climate is declared to be the best in the world—warm days and cool nights are the rule. Wind-storms seldom occur, and cyclones are an unknown quantity. With respect to climate, as well as with respect to the fertility of the soil, the dwellers here consider themselves blest. The topography of the land, too, is pleasing, many sections reminding one of the delightful aspects of the midland counties of England. Long, winding rivers, mirroring lakes, and timbered belts mark the landscape at intervals, and with the reaches of level or undulating prairie present the eye a charming picture. A countryside drive in the summer through leagues of waving grain, on the best natural roads ever known, is a pleasure that leaves lingering and joyful remembrances. With such agreeable surroundings, little wonder it is that Western Canadians love their country and never tire of extolling their grand heritage.

The soil of Western Canada is generally of a rich, deep, black, argillaceous mould or loam, resting on a deep and very tenacious sub-soil, and especially adapted to the growth of wheat and other cereals. Analysis made by chemists in Great Britain and Germany have confirmed this. So rich is the prairie soil that it does not require the addition of manure or artificial

cultivators for years after it is first broken, and in some places, where the black loam is very deep, it is practically inexhaustible. The marvellous richness of the prairie soil has arisen from the gathering of droppings from birds and animals and ashes of prairie fires, which have accumulated for ages, together with decayed vegetable and animal matter, the entire deposit resting upon a very retentive clay subsoil.

The wheat of Western Canada is well known to be extremely hard, the yield being from 30 to 50 per cent. more than in the States south of the boundary line. The principal causes for this are natural ones. The farther cultivation is carried towards the limit of the wheat growth, the finer is the quality of the soil. The subsoil throughout the heat of summer is kept moist by the slow melting of the deep winter frosts, the moist ascending to the surface and nourishing the roots of the grain, thus stimulating growth and producing an abundant crop. Nor are heat and moisture the only things essential to profitable wheat growing. Solar light is a great factor, and the greater the amount the better the result, and the sunshine is longest in the northern portions of Western Canada just at the period it is most needed. During the grain maturing period there are nearly two hours more of daylight to every twenty-four there than in Ohio.

The average yield of wheat varies under different conditions. In some years the average has been more than thirty bushels per acre, while in others it has been twelve-five, and in one or two exceptional years, in the early days of wheat cultivation, when there were occasional early and late frosts, going as low as eighteen bushels. But taking even the lowest average, there is no industry that will produce larger profits. Owing to the modern and economical methods employed in cropping, harvesting, threshing, and marketing, as well as the special ease with which in the prairie country all this is accomplished, there is always a handsome profit.

A Paradise Little Understood.

One of the most able writers in the United States, who recently took a trip through Western Canada, speaks thus: "The Red River is crossed just before reaching Winnipeg. Few rivers in all the world drain a richer and more fertile



Canadian Train crossing the Prairies.
country. It is doubted if any other river
in the world has as much "productive wheat

land tributary to it. Wherever it flows, prosperity and plenty, agricultural richness and the bounty of Ceres seem to go and remain. On every hand, from Winnipeg west, several hundred miles, wheat fields almost as level as the floor extend as far as the eye can reach. Most of the fields were still standing in the sheaf, and regiment after regiment of the golden grain in the shock feasted the eye. That this is a prosperous section hardly needs proof other than a view of the great stretch of wheat land and the harvested grain. But the large and attractive farmhouses, with frequently immense barns, and improvements of every nature, modern and substantial, speak most eloquently of the wealth of the section."

DAIRYING IN WESTERN CANADA.

THE extension of dairying in Western Canada is only limited by the ability of the settlers to provide buildings. The length of the winters makes good, warm, well-ventilated, well-lighted stables imperative, and it is only within the last few years that the farmers, having got well over their pioneer work of breaking up and fencing their farms are now turning an ever increasing amount of their attention to the erection of good barns and stables, which permit of the business being carried on in winter as well as in summer. There are very few sections of the country where wild hay is not available in almost unlimited quantities, costing only the labour of saving it. The labour is less than in any other country, as the drying power of the prairie atmosphere permits the cutting of five to ten tons in the morning, and the raking and cocking of it in the afternoon. Indeed, it is always best when made this way. The inferiority of prairie hay as a staple fodder for cattle is mostly due to the length of time it is exposed, and to the otherwise slovenly manner in which the too busy farmer puts it up. In districts where the encroachment of cultivation has made the native hay scarce, a much superior substitute is found by growing oats and barley on the fallows, cutting it "on the green side," and making it into hay. The Government Experimental

Farm at Brandon has done good service in this connection by its long series of experiments and tests with fodder grasses. Those tests have brought to the front the Brome grass, which grows wherever the native grasses will grow. It produces pasture several weeks earlier in the spring, remains green and succulent long after the prairie grass has dried off in the fall, produces heavy crops of excellent hay, makes an ideal sward for grazing, and nothing but ploughing up will kill it. The Manitoba prairies, which at one time carried their thousands of buffalo, are equally adapted to the habitation of an immense population of the ordinary cattle.

The Dominion Government, alive to the capabilities of Manitoba as a dairy country, very early turned its attention to the fostering of the industry, as had been done in the older provinces. It recognised that the farmers—most of whom were settlers of free homesteads and drafted from all lands, many from the cities of Europe, among them men who scarcely knew at which end of a cow to sit down to milk—knew little of dairying, and sent out from the dairy colleges and schools of Quebec and Ontario instructors who went through the whole province and by means of lectures, travelling dairies and the distribution of literature, imparted sound dairy knowledge.

HIGH LATITUDE AND QUALITY OF GRAIN.

PROFESSOR Kempter, of Budapest, has been recognised as one of the very highest authorities in Hungary on the sources of quality in wheat. He seems to regard bright sunshine and far north latitude as the sources of the highest values in wheat. Speaking for Hungary, he says:

"Of late years the attention of our agriculturists has been called to Swedish seed cereals. It is a fact that the bright and sunny skies of the north ripen a better and more vigorous seed than is found anywhere else. Several years ago some wheat and rye were sent to me to be tested by a milling firm at Gotterberg in Sweden, and I am bound to confess that never throughout my long years of practice have there come before me seed cereals so well developed and of such perfect structure. The wheat showed a weight of 86 and the rye of 79 kilogrammes to the hectolitre (the kilo is roughly 2 1-5 lbs. and the hect. is 2 3-4 bushels). These are very striking figures and worthy of the closest attention. It appears from the proceedings of the Swedish Seed Congress that seed is best raised by small growers, who can devote more care to its cultivation than is possible in large plots, and that seed transplanted from the north to the south ripens more

quickly than the southern seed. Experimenting on the same line, seed grown in the neighbourhood of Christiania, was sent to Trondhjem, that is to say, 400 kilometers (about 249 miles) further north, with the result that there the seed gained in weight to the extent of 70 per cent, and that it also underwent a change in colour. We ourselves know that all kinds of wheat cultivated in South Hungary assume in the second generation the hard characteristics of the native wheat. In the same way it has been shown that in the Probstei foreign ryes assimilate to the type of the native plant."

The above figures would indicate that a choice sample of Swedish wheat would weigh about 68 lbs. to the bushel, certainly a very rare weight for wheat.

The late Consul Taylor, known among his friends further south as "Saskatchewan Taylor," never tired of pointing out that "cereals attained their best development at their northern limit of production," but this principle is conditional on the amount of available sunshine and the nature of the soil it grows on. Subject to these modifications, it is beyond dispute that northern grown seed is always best, and the most discerning practical seed growers work in accord with that idea.

WHERE THE BRITISH MARKET GETS A LARGE PORTION OF ITS MEAT SUPPLY.

Thousands of Head of Cattle Annually Exported to Great Britain
from the North-West Territories.

IN the district of Canada, which comprises all that portion lying west of Lake Superior, are the Province of Manitoba, and the Colonies of Saskatchewan, Alberta and Alberta. This is popularly known as Western Canada. Writing of this district it is said that much has been written and spoken of the attractions which the north-western prairie regions of the Dominion of Canada present to the agriculturist, but it is questionable if the capabilities of the country are yet understood or appreciated by intending emigrants in Europe; though judging by the steady influx of people, the work of disseminating information, carried on by

the Dominion and local governments and railway companies, is proving effective, and there is a now a constantly increasing immigration.

The arable and grazing-lands of the Canadian North-west are so extensive that the possibilities of the country have been aptly described as "illimitable." From the Red River to the Rocky Mountains, with the Big Saskatchewan River as the northern boundary, there are approximately 240,000 square miles, or 153,600,000 acres of land, nearly all of which is suitable for grain-growing or cattle-raising. This region embraces the Province of Manitoba, and the provincial territories of Assini-



Farmstead, North of Minto, Manitoba.

boia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Athabasca. Settlement is progressing throughout the entire region, and to-day vast tracts that were twenty years ago dreary solitudes, inhabited by buffalo and other wild denizens of the forests and plains, have been transformed into thriving settlements, where the enterprising and thrifty farmers have established comfortable homes and find a profitable recompence for their industrious labours. The majority of the older settlements saw their inception less than two decades ago. Then the sturdy pioneers threw up their shacks and prepared to prove the boasted fertility of the virgin soil of the "great lone land." The story of how their faith and efforts have been rewarded, and how fruitful the prairie lands have proven to be, is eloquently told by the prosperous appearance of these same settlements to-day. Large and substantial dwellings—stone, brick, and frame—have succeeded the log and sod shacks, and towns from 200 to 6,000, have sprung up; while every part of the country is traversed by railroads, and no convenience or institution considered essential in modern day civilized communities is lacking.

The Province of Manitoba being the first open to settlement, has naturally made the most marked progress. There are now in the Province 40,000 farmers, and the total population is approximately 240,000. The grain last year amounted

to over 60,000,000 bushels, of which 30,000,000 was wheat. The live stock owned by the farmers amounted to 500,000 head, while their real and personal property subject to assessment aggregated £11,225,000. This accumulation of wealth has been accomplished by men who came to this country with but little capital, most of them with none. This fact is the best evidence of the opportunities afforded by Manitoba to those who are willing to work, and who are able to combine a little business sense with their physical exertions. Another fact worthy of notice is that in several of the older settlements the farmers have such ample savings that they are lending money to their neighbours (to the injury of the bankers and professional money-lenders). Land values have risen rapidly during the past few years, and the upward tendency continues. Still, there are considerable quantities of virgin lands that can be purchased from twelve shillings an acre upwards; and in the newer districts which are being opened up by railroad construction, free grant or homestead lands are available and are sought after by newcomers who have not sufficient means to purchase improved farms; but with the extension of railways these have at the very outset the needed transportation facilities to place them in close touch with the best market conditions. The railroad companies are the largest

holders of the wild lands, but they pursue a wise policy in fixing a low price, from 12 shillings an acre, and on the most liberal terms; giving ten years to repay in-equal annual instalments, with a low rate of interest. Their generous treatment of settlers in the matter of land sales is proverbial, lending, as they do, every reasonable assistance they can to those endeavouring to establish homes in the new country. These companies realise that the success of the railroads is in direct proportion to the farmers, hence it is to their advantage to have the farmer prosper.

Stock-raising goes hand in hand with grain growing in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Assiniboia and Alberta. Thousands of head of cattle are annually exported to Great Britain; and last year no less than 40,000 head of stockers were exported to the western provinces, where the herds are allowed to run down during the period of over-supply. The grasses of the northern country are exceedingly nutritious, and cattle, rolling fat, are taken from the pastures in the fall to the market without any stall feeding; consequently cattle can be raised at a minimum of cost. Stock of all kinds thrive well in these latitudes at all seasons of the year, and visitors are struck with the fact that the offspring grow larger than their imported parents. The cattle-raising industry, like that of grain-growing, is in its infancy, and one can readily foresee, in view of the proportions it has already assumed, that in the next decade the Canadian West will be a factor to be reckoned with in the beef supply of the world, as well as with respect to the production of wheat.

Excellent Marketing Facilities.

The market facilities are the very best. Along the lines of railway there are very complete elevator systems operated by private companies under regulations which protect the farmers. These elevators furnish storage capacity for the respective districts, as well as facilities for the speedy and cheap handling of the grain. Farmers may store their grain, if they so desire, at a nominal charge, including insurance. If they do not wish to sell or store, they can ship direct to the lake ports and dispose of their wheat there, if they think they can do better than by dealing through the middlemen. Several grain and milling companies are represented at each market where the trade warrants it, so that active competition and fair treatment are assured. For coarse

grain and dairy produce, the mining and lumbering regions of British Columbia and Western Ontario furnish profitable markets. For the proper handling of butter, cheese, &c., the railway companies have a regular refrigerator car service; and co-operative creameries, under government auspices, have also been established in the most populous districts and have proven successful, a standard and uniform quality of butter and cheese being produced, which commands a higher price than the indifferent and irregular qualities made on the farms. In the minor branches of farm-enterprise there is much scope for expansion and intelligent effort. Large quantities of poultry are imported from the east, and during the past two years not enough hogs have been raised to supply the local packing-houses. This goes to show that the farmers have been making too much money out of their grain and cattle to bother with the lesser enterprises of the farm. However, in due time it is hoped that poultry and hogs and every line of farm products will be added to the already formidable array of exports.

Canada's Great Possibilities.

This country, which was pronounced at one time a mere ragged edge cut off from the territories of the United States, has an area of very great extent, capable of sustaining a population as large as that of Russia in Europe. Instead of being a mere fringe along the American border, it is a country extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and having a depth of several hundred miles, capable of sustaining a hardy and industrious population. It is true that Canada occupies a higher latitude than its neighbours. The climate, it may be, is an advantage, and not a disadvantage, from a national point of view. The climate of the country is far less severe than the people of the other country suppose. It is one well adapted to the production and support of a hardy and enterprising race of people who will receive from the pursuits in which they engage ample reward for their toil, who will live in a country where the climate does not enervate, and if they love justice and hate falsehood, love industry and despise idleness, and are loyal to their great privileges and good opportunities, there is no reason why Canada should not, as a portion of the British Empire become as powerful, as influential, as any other country upon the American continent.

TEMPERATURE.

THE following table gives the average summer and yearly temperature at stations in Western Canada, with the latitude, longitude, and height above the sea. The temperatures are derived from ten years' observations and over, whenever practicable.

STATIONS.	Latitude	Longitude	Height above sea	Mean temperature.		
				Summer.	Winter.	Year.
Battleford ..	52.41	108.20	1620	62.3	1.3	32.9
Calgary ..	51.02	114.02	3389	58.8	13.9	37.4
Edmonton ..	53.33	113.30	2158	59.3	8.8	35.9
Indian Head ..	50.28	103.40	924	62.9	2.2	38.0
Moose Jaw ..	50.21	105.35	745	61.6	5.3	33.9
Prince Albert ..	53.10	106.00	1402	59.5	-2.1	30.7
Qu'Appelle ..	50.30	103.47	2115	61.6	1.6	33.4
Swift Current ..	50.20	107.45	2439	63.5	9.8	37.6
Brandon ..	49.51	99.57	1176	63.1	-0.4	33.1
Emerson ..	49.01	97.13	—	64.2	2.9	35.3
Minnedosa ..	50.10	99.48	1690	60.5	-0.6	32.0
Portage la Prairie ..	49.57	98.01	830	64.2	1.8	35.2
Winnipeg ..	49.53	97.07	760	66.0	-0.9	33.3

A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST.

The Total Yield of Grain Last Year in the North-West amounted to One Hundred and Nine Million Bushels.



Seeding in Western Canada.

MANITOBA and the Western Territories will long be dependent principally on the labours of its tillers of the soil. Its future is indissolubly linked with that of its farmers. While almost every other form of industrial activity is represented, they form a comparatively insignificant minority as compared with the great staple occupation of agriculture on which they are altogether dependent for their assistance and prosperity. Nowhere on earth is a country more ideally adapted for agriculture. Its climate and fertility conspire to make it

one of the natural granaries for the food supply of the congested millions of the European centres of population.

The record of its achievements for the past twenty years reads like a romance in modern industrial history. Twenty years ago, Manitoba, for instance, grew 5,000,000 bushels of wheat, whilst last year the crop amounted to over 50,000,000 bushels. It is almost impossible to conceive the possibilities that await that section of the country when the labour of the husbandman shall have transformed its green prairies into golden fields.

The total yield of grain in Manitoba and the territories last year reached the enormous amount of 109,000,000 bushels. The bulk of this was wheat, oats and barley, but there was also a certain proportion of flax, rye and peas. This, considering the comparatively small number of farmers, is truly an astonishing yield and testifies to the marvellous fertility of the soil. In Manitoba the yield amounted to 85,179,858 bushels. Estimates of the crop, more or less correct, have been published from time to time, but it is only recently that the official returns have been given out, and the following figures compiled from these returns will, therefore, be of interest, even though some months have elapsed since the harvest was gathered.

The total yield and the average yield per acre of the various crops in the Province for the past year were as follows :-

	Total yield bushels.	Avg. yield bushels. to acre.
Wheat ..	50,502,085	25.1
Oats ..	27,796,588	40.3
Barley ..	6,536,155	24.2
Flax ..	266,420	12.7
Rye ..	62,261	23
Peas ..	16,349	18.6

Total ..	85,179,858	
Potatoes, ..	4,797,433	196
Roots ..	2,925,362	286

The average yield of cultivated grasses was two tons to the acre, and of native grasses 14.5 tons.



Threshing in Western Canada.

In addition to the grain and root crops given above, the farmers of the Province marketed £75,100 and the creameries £88,580 worth of butter, a total of £167,780, or £88,900 in excess of 1899. Cheese to the value of £17,670 was manufactured.

The North-West Territories.

The Government returns for the territories are not completed yet, but the following estimate of the crop of 1901, based on several thousand returns of actual threshing results from all over the country, which may be accepted as approximately correct, indicates a total yield of grain, wheat, oats and barley, of 23,969,908 bushels off 720,847 acres :-

Wheat.

	Bushels Threshed.	Acres in crop.	Yield per acre.
Assiniboia ..	4,337,967	103,086	44
Saskatchewan ..	579,542	14,154	45.37
Alberta ..	6,532,875	112,199	45.77
	11,450,384	229,439	45.04

Barley.

Assiniboia ..	200,906	5,894	36.61
Saskatchewan ..	91,637	2,851	34.15
Alberta ..	450,389	11,299	32.39
	742,932	20,044	34.38

Hay and Fodder.

The native grass of Manitoba is exceedingly nutritious and its growth is quite luxuriant. In 1901 the average weight of the crop cut was 1.8 tons per acre, and in the north-west district of the province was fully 2 tons. Cultivated grasses yield great weight, the average for the province in 1901 being 2 tons per acre, and 2.3 tons in the north-west district. Ordinarily the farmer in Manitoba only needs to go out

into the prairie and cut and cure all the grass he needs for his winter's feed, and excellent seed it makes. American Lyme grass, awnless bromé grass, timothy and clover yield from 2 to 3 tons to the acre at Brandon.

Contrary to the opinion generally entertained outside the province, large crops of corn can be, and indeed, are grown every year for feeding purposes. As is well known, it makes excellent fodder, and when made into ensilage is equal if not superior to any other class of food for fattening cattle.

Attempts have been made to grow sugar beets, but it has not yet been determined whether for sugar making, this crop would be profitable. In 1889 the crop of sugar beets raised at Brandon varied from 15 to 27 tons to the acre, and therefore, for feeding purposes at least, the showing is eminently satisfactory.

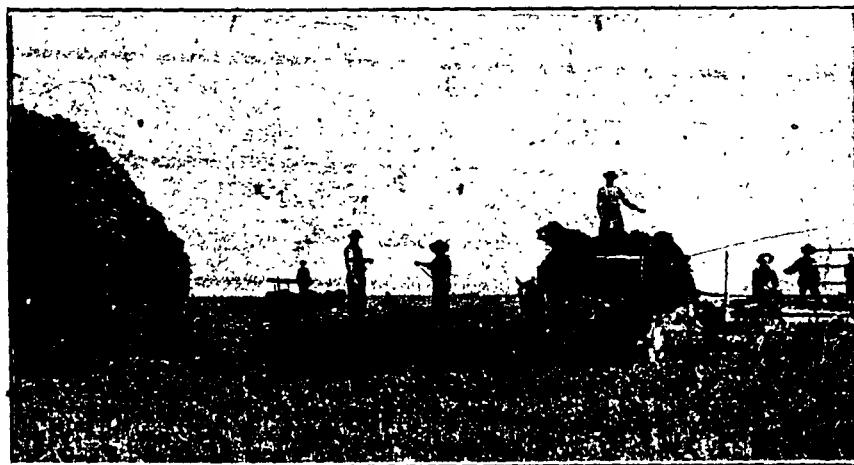
Benefit of Cattle Breeding.

Happily, the farmers of Manitoba have already become imbued with the right sentiment with regard to cattle breeding, namely, that it forms the basis of all agricultural success, and this probably accounts for the small percentage of the cattle that is raised being sold out of the country. Upon the development of the cattle-raising industry, there can be no

doubt, the future prosperity of the province depends, for this assuredly is the only, and at the same time sufficient, means by which the fertility of the soil can be maintained, depending, as it does, upon a proper rotation of crops and the coarse grains and grasses being returned to the soil in the shape of manure, and thus serving the double purpose of feeding the stock and ensuring the continuance of the large crops of wheat for which Manitoba is famous.

Income from Manitoba Farm Produce, 1901.

Bushels.	Value.
50,502,085 .. .	Wheat .. \$25,251,042.50
27,796,688 .. .	Oats .. 7,505,078.76
6,536,155 .. .	Barley .. 2,287,304.25
266,420 .. .	Flax .. 319,704.00
62,261 .. .	Ryo .. 24,904.40
16,349 .. .	Peas .. 9,809.40
4,797,433 .. .	Potatoes 1,199,355.25
2,925,362 .. .	Roots .. 292,536.20
Pounds.	
5,208,740 .. .	Butter .. \$37,964.69
1,039,392 .. .	Cheese .. 88,348.32
Poultry and Eggs	
Cattle (44,500) .. .	250,000.00
Hogs (25,000) .. .	1,052,000.00
Total	\$39,368,051.77
	£7,873,610



Harvesting the Golden Grain of Western Canada.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Diversified Farming more Profitable than Wheat Growing.
 Superior quality and large quantity of Dairy Produce Manufactured in
 Western Canada.—Good Markets and High Prices.

Butter.

OF the quality of the butter produced there has never been any question. It early won a high place in the butter market, and the dairymen have become quite used to high economies being passed on what is made in the province. There is no better authority on this continent on butter making than Prof. T. L. Hoecker of the university of Minnesota, who has had vast experience, and made it one of the studies of his professional career. The professor, who acted as judge at the industrial exhibition, held in Winnipeg last summer, states without hesitation that in all his experience he had never met with so large an exhibit of such fine quality. Another high authority—Professor Farington, of Madison University, Wis.—gave expression to a similar opinion when he passed judgment on the butter exhibits the previous year. Last season the conditions throughout that part of the province lying west of the Red River have been most favourable for the production of butter. The pasture came early, was abundant, and good, and the plentiful rains kept it in excellent condition until the creameries closed in the latter part of October and early in November. In dairy butter the ratio of increase over that of the previous year, was 31 per cent., and as the average price has remained

about the same, the results, as indicated above, have shown a correspondingly large increase in the net value. The output of creamery butter has made a most phenomenal stride, showing an increase of 96 per cent. over last year. In this department the average price is about 1 1-5 c. lower than last year, but the net value has greatly increased.

No one can overestimate the importance of the cultivation of the dairy industry to the farmer when it is remembered that the average butter bill for a family is twice as much as the flour bill. There can be really no doubt of the immense value it is to the farmer, and therefore the great question he has to consider is how to produce, at as small a cost and in as great quantities as possible, an article that will command the highest price. There is no difficulty as to the market. Right at our door in British Columbia there is a large and growing demand for dairy produce, and this market naturally belongs to Manitoba and the territories. It is a market which pays good prices, and the kind of butter produced in Manitoba suits it well. And by continuing to use the most improved methods of manufacture and keeping pace with the demand, the farmers and dairymen are determined to hold this market against all comers. This, indeed, they should have little difficulty in doing.

THE PROMISED LAND OF HOME SEEKERS.

Western Canada has Thousands upon Thousands of Fertile Farms to Give Away.

(Correspondence—American Newspaper).

DURING my trip through Canada, made last summer for the purpose of investigating the agricultural and industrial conditions in the great provinces and territories known as Western Canada, I saw nothing that impressed me more than the train loads of home-seeking colonists as they rolled into the city of Winnipeg. Those trains brought people from

every clime, wearing every conceivable costume, speaking every language, all intent upon the one object of securing a free home in a new and free country. Many came from what are known as the oppressed nations of Europe, many from the over-crowded nations of the Old World, many from the United States.

I stood in the immigration office at Win-

nipeg and listened to the babble of voices in every tongue, and, turning to Mr. Smith, the Immigration Commissioner, I asked :

"Have you room for all of them?"

"And to spare," he replied. "We do not anticipate turning any desirable, industrious settler away for some time to come, though of course, those who get here first get the pick of the land, just as they did in the United States before the desirable land in that country was taken up."

Later I travelled north, west, and south. I visited the great agricultural sections of Manitoba, of Assiniboia, of Alberta, of Saskatchewan, of Athabasca. Then I understood that there were good farms for many thousands. Everywhere I saw thriving settlements, well improved farms and contented people. The country seemed fairly well settled up; so much so that none need be lonesome from a lack of neighbours.

The country is settled to such an extent that one really cannot appreciate the amount of land awaiting claimants without the aid of a few figures, and these I afterwards secured from those competent to give them.

"How much land is there available for settlement and government purposes throughout these western provinces and territories of Canada?" was one question I asked, and the answer almost frightened me, it was so much greater than I believed possible. It was :

"Three hundred and seven million, nine hundred and fifty-seven thousand, one hundred and twenty acres."

The sum was too great for my mental arithmetic, but with the aid of a paper and pencil I discovered that it meant 1,924.732 farms of 160 acres each.

These figures were necessary before I fairly realised what Western Canada meant to the crowded millions of Europe and the small farmers of the United States; the men in the states who are attempting to support themselves and a family upon a poorer farm than any I had seen in Canada, and with less than half the land Canada was willing to give them if they would live upon it.

From my personal investigations I know these free farms in Canada to be productive. I walked through fields of wheat grown upon them which, when harvested, yielded 30, 35, and as high as 40 bushels of grain to the acre, and that with less cultivation than is necessary upon fields yielding a less harvest in the United States.

Nor is this wheat belt confined to Mani-

toba alone. The great fields around Prince Albert, in Saskatchewan; around Regina, in eastern Assiniboia; from Calgary north to Edmonton and beyond in Alberta, all gave proof of the possibilities of an extensive country. In fact, the limit of the wheat country has not yet been reached, even by experimenters. In the Peace river valley, of the north-west has been grown some of the heaviest crops of wheat with which Canada has been favoured, and in quality this wheat is the equal or superior of that grown anywhere on the American continent. In proof of this let me refer to the fact that the wheat awarded first prize at the world's fair in Chicago was grown in the Peace river valley of Canada, some 300 miles north of Edmonton. The day is not far distant when even we of the States will have to look upon this wheat-producing area of Canada as "the bread basket of the world."

In the middle of last January the young people here in Calgary played lawn tennis out of doors, on the grass, in flannel suits and shirt sleeves. The weather even as far north as the Peace river valley is very nearly as mild as that of Calgary, though the temperature is nearer even. At Edmonton, Red Deer and Le Duc official reports showed the climate to be less severe than we have in central and northern Minnesota, and far less severe than that of central and northern Montana.

During the past summer I personally investigated the agricultural conditions existing in Western Canada by making an extended trip through that great territory. Through the courtesy of the Canadian government every opportunity was given me of making my investigations complete, and from these I drew my own conclusions as to the adaptability of the country to agricultural purposes and the development that was taking place there. Like every other traveller in a to him new land I saw many things of absorbing interest, and asked many questions.

A good horse always attracts my attention, and I stopped for a moment to admire those tied to a hitching rack at Medicine Hat. They were beauties, of the medium roadster type, western bred, and were well worthy the attention of any admirer of horseflesh.

As I stood looking at them I noticed the team nearest me was hitched to a wagon made in the States, and on enquiry I found that the owner was from the United States.

"Which one of the States are you from?" I asked.

"From Iowa; to my mind one of the best, if not the very best, agricultural State in the American union, and yet for many reasons I prefer this country as a place in which to live. To me these Western Canadian territories seem to be the farmers' Eldorado. I tired of general farming on 80 acres of land in Iowa, and eight years ago determined to sell out and go west and engage in stock raising. I investigated the Dakotas, Montana, and came further north into Assinaboia and Alberta territories of Canada, and finally settled here. What I had to start with was the proceeds of the sale of my 80 acres in Iowa. What I have to-day could not be bought for three times what I started with."

"Am I to infer from that that your original capital has tripled by your exertions here, or that you prefer this to Iowa as a place of residence?" I asked.

"Both would not be far wrong, though I referred to the tripling of my capital when I spoke. The value of my holdings here are to-day three times and more what they were in Iowa."

"To what do you attribute your success?" I asked.

"To several things. In the first place I have not been idle. In the second place, this country is better adapted to stock raising than any other section of territory I ever saw. The cattle feed on the range the year round, and fatten there. I have shipped from Medicine Hat steers that weighed 1,500 pounds, which had been taken directly from the range to the station, and to which I had never fed an ounce of grain. Much must be attributed to the climate. We seldom have any severe cold weather, and when we do it lasts but a day or two at a time at the most. The Chinook winds regulate this for us, and keep the range in good feeding shape all winter. I have seen many days in January and February when the mercury would register as high as 60 above. Add to these things a ready market at a good price, and the fact that I got, what everyone else is welcome to, 160 acres of good grazing land—a part of which I have since utilized for general farming with great success—free from the government, and you have the reasons for my present prosperous and contented condition. Within a dozen miles of this town I could point out to you a large number of families from the States who have accomplished as much or more than I have, or

who are in a fair way to accomplish it within a very few years, as many of them are but recent settlers here."

From this conversation it was very evident to me that the States were exporting to Western Canada something far more valuable than farm wagons—industrious citizens. The man who could accomplish such results in Canada, even with conditions favouring him as they did, must be a good citizen—a good citizen that Iowa had lost and Canada had gained.

In fact, it is hard to find any portion of the great country in which the Canadian government is now offering free farms to settlers in which the emigrant from the States will not find neighbours from the home land.

Mixed Farming.

One of the most profitable features of mixed farming is dairying, and annually a very large sum of money passes into the pockets of the Manitoba farmer as a result of his operations in this direction. Yearly this revenue is increasing at a very rapid rate, showing that not only those who engage in it widen their operations, but that there are a large number who are each year leaving the ranks of the wheat growers pure and simple and including dairying in their other departments of farm life. In 1895 there were 1,763,252 pounds of butter made in the province of Manitoba which fetched in the market £43,500, while of cheese there was produced 553,192 pounds, which totalled up in value £21,435. The total revenue from these two products of the dairy for the year was £64,935. A couple of years later, the total value of dairy products had advanced to £90,100. In 1899 there was a still greater advance, the money derived from the sale of butter and cheese having piled up to the respectable total of £95,112. Next year (1900) there was a still greater advance, butter showing a yield of 3,338,431 pounds valued at £108,334, and cheese a yield of 1,021,258 pounds, producing a value of £128,798. But 1901 was the banner year for dairying in the history of the province, when the total value of the products of the dairies and creameries mounted up to the magnificent total of £185,263. This, it will be noticed, almost reaches a million dollars, and it may confidently be expected that this year the amount will far exceed these truly phenomenal figures.

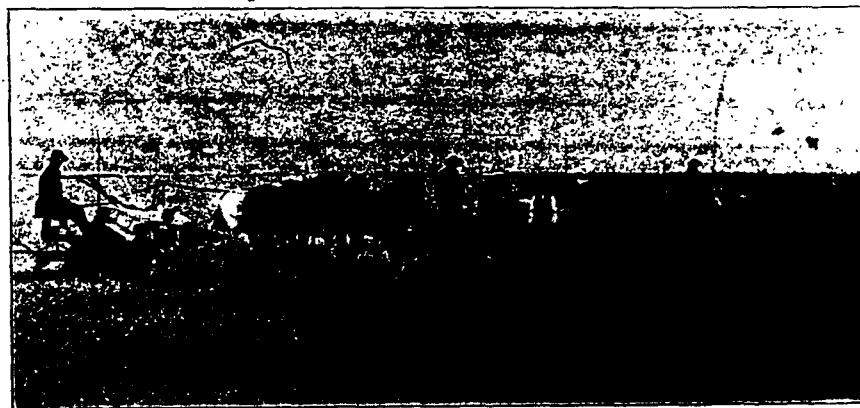
CAPTURING THE BRITISH MARKET.

Manitoba Wheat displacing the American Cereal Granary of the Empire.

United States Wheat Grower no longer the Controlling Factor
in Continental Markets.

THE American Miller notes that the 50,000,000 bushel wheat crop of Manitoba in 1901 has forced upon American millers and economists the disagreeable conviction that the United States wheat grower is no longer the controlling factor in Mark Lane. No doubt this conviction would have come sooner, and to many with more force, if the Canadian car famine had not greatly retarded the movement abroad of the Manitoba crop. Even with a very large part of the crop held back, simply because it could not be moved to tidewater in any direction, the American miller has seen Manitoba wheat taken by British importers at "bar-gain-counter" prices, thus giving British millers a better wheat than No. 1 Northern, at a price that is reflected in a stagnant American export flour trade. Unfortunately the future promises a worse condition rather than a betterment, and for obvious reasons, Manitoba and the Canadian North-west are filling up and developing their wheat lands with great rapidity. No one is prepared to say when this North-west country will produce 100,000,000

bushels of wheat, but it will not be long hence. The 100,000,000 bushels will then be dumped on the English or continental markets within six months, the same as the 50,000,000 are now, for want of granaries on the farms, or elevators in the towns to store it. It must be got rid of as quickly as threshed. The effect on trade is obvious. Millers and elevator men in the North-west see only one way out of this serious dilemma. That way, suggests our flour-trade contemporary is the removal of the American duty on the wheat. This action would bring this vast volume of wheat under the influence of the American marketing system, which is distinctly a bull, and not a bear influence. The grain could come to our mill for storage in their elevators and for grinding, and it would be collected in our grain elevators for storage until it should go into consumption naturally, along with American-grown grain, and the effect of this system of handling would be beneficial alike to the Canadian and American grain. Milling in bond would not accomplish the same results.



Reapers at work in Western Canada.

LETTERS FROM CLERGYMEN.

WINNIPEG, MAN.
November 5th, 1901.
J. OBED SMITH, ESQ.,
Commissioner of Immigration,
Winnipeg.

DEAR SIR,—I remember promising to give you my impression of the country last summer, when I was about to take my third trip through the great Canadian West.

To say I was delighted with the country would be putting my impressions into the very commonest phraseology. Having been a missionary in this country for ten years, and having travelled all over it three different times, I feel as if I know it pretty well.

While Manitoba has proven itself to be a most resourceful country to thousands of homesteaders, and has room for thousands more, I cannot help thinking that the territories of Alberta and Assiniboina offer even better inducements to settlers. For wheat-raising powers, Manitoba has no superior, but further West the facilities for mixed farming, to my mind, seem more favourable. I call that western district a region of vast opportunities and a land of abundant promise. That country is sure to be the food supply for the mining cities of the mountains. The mines are being rapidly developed, and many large cities are springing up. Already two railroads top these mining districts, and the third is about to be run in. Alberta will be the supply ground for all those cities. The food stuffs required will be butter, eggs, canned vegetables, mutton, pork, beef, flour, etc., besides oats, hay, and horses. All of these are produced and developed to a remarkable degree of excellence all through that country. I walked through many oat and wheat fields where the grain actually measured from five to six feet in height, and reliable farmers told me the wheat and oats would yield 50 and 100 bushels respectively per acre on the best fields.

There is an emergency valve for the dry seasons in the form of irrigation ditches, which give a cheap and abundant supply of water from the mountain streams—thus assuring a good annual crop. The last few seasons have been so favourable these ditches have been unnecessary.

It was simply surprising to see how

many settlements of foreigners—Germans, Armenians, Icelanders, Scandinavians, Galicians, etc., had in five to ten years gathered about themselves, barns, houses, machinery, cattle, horses, sheep, lands and crops, until they seemed to be living in ease and plenty.

The climate is beautiful; the railroad facilities excellent; markets good for everything that can be raised; taxes are light; free schools are provided for everywhere; all these considerations, together with the cheap land and immense tracts of it to be homesteaded, combine to make that country a paradise for home-seekers from every land under the sun.

The moral and religious state of the country cannot be overrated. Over our great belt of wheat land, which is doubtless the largest in the world of its kind, not a machine will move and not a sheaf will be lifted, upon ~~the Sabbath day~~. This is largely due to the fact that Christian Missionaries are found in every settlement in the country. No one can go over that region and see any real drawback to deter anyone from going in, or even to hesitate for a moment to grasp the opportunity of entering it. The fact that many old farmers from nearly every part of the United States are selling out and going to Alberta to take up new farms, is positive proof that the advantages there cannot be paralleled anywhere in the world. Anyone who can look into the future and prophesy in the slightest degree, cannot fail to see that God has destined that goodly land to be the future habitation of hundreds of thousands of happy homes.

(Signed) HAMILTON WIGLE, B.A.,
Wesleyan Minister,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

WINNEPEG,

Nov. 5th, 1901,

J. OBED SMITH, ESQ.,
Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg.

DEAR SIR,—You have asked me to write you a short letter stating my views as to Canada being a field for immigration.

I shall only confine myself to Manitoba, as I consider it the very best part of Canada for settlers from other parts of the world to locate in. The advantages in Manitoba for immigrants are exceptionally great, since it requires much less capital to begin farming on a prairie soil than a

country where, as a rule, it takes a lifetime to clear up a farm from stones and wood. I know whereof I write from practical experience. I was brought up in a certain part of Ontario where it took farmers a whole life-time to get their farms into any sort of shape before any kind of a decent crop could be raised. Here in Manitoba all that sort of hard slavish work is practically done away with; in fact, machinery does all the work. It was only yesterday that I visited a farmer living about forty miles from Winnipeg, who had come to this country with just barely enough to bring himself and family. This farmer told me that he had been trying to farm in another country for over 25 years and could only get a bare existence, but since he had come here he found it an entirely new life, for, instead of finding the pinch of poverty year after year, he found he had always plenty for himself and family with something to spare. This same farmer has now a well-stocked farm of his own; has two or three of his sons settled on farms about him and all seem to be most comfortably fixed. Of course, I could go on giving numbers of instances of cases like this that have prospered well, since their advent to the country. But why multiply instances? The prosperity of the country speaks for itself. Since my duties as Immigrant Chaplain take me about the country a great deal I have opportunities of both hearing and seeing the march of progress. There are only two great requirements required of new settlers who come here. These are pluck and steadiness. If a person makes up his mind with these two chief characteristics, he need have no fear but what he can make this country a success. Where a person does not do as well as he might here, you will find that he has failed in one of the above-mentioned points. Perhaps it may be in both.

I have not written you a very long letter on the subject of immigration, since so much has been written before on the great advantages of getting on in Manitoba and the facilities at hand for improving one's self, that it seems only a waste of time to write further on the subject, but I just wish to bear testimony to the fact.

Yours truly,

(Signed) H. T. LESLIE,
Anglican Chaplain.

ARCHBISHOP'S PALACE
OF ST. BONIFACE, MAN.,
11th November, 1901.

TO MR. OBED SMITH,
Commissioner.

DEAR SIR.—Allow me to call your kind and serious attention to the fact that the Manitoba and the North-West have proved to be healthy and successful fields of immigration for German settlers who are so laborious, so industrious, and so thrifty.

I have about three thousand Catholic Germans in my diocese and they have built quite a few substantial stone churches under the direction of priests of their own nationality.

Now, to speak particularly of these ones because I have visited them, I must say that they have succeeded remarkably well and they are perfectly satisfied with our fertile soil and the facilities for life of our immense country. The cold climate and the lack of wood (replaced by coal) in few places, have been no obstacle in their way. They are surely among best class of settlers that are brought to the Canadian Far-West, and the more we will receive the better it would be for the prosperity of our new promising country. I have the honour to be,

Dear Sir, yours very truly,
ADELARD, O.M.I.,
Arc'd. of St. Boniface.



Sheep Grazing in Western Canada.

CANADA AS A HOME FOR BRITISH SETTLERS.

(From the *Glasgow Weekly Record*.)

AN American writer recently said "For Canada the hour of destiny has struck. She has the physical basis for an Empire, and the stream of immigration which has now begun will swell into a mighty movement of population like that by which our central west was occupied, until her fertile lands shall be the homes of millions of prosperous people. Thus far, American immigrants are largely in excess of those from other lands, outside the British groups, and American thought will have a mighty influence in moulding the character of the coming commonwealths of Western Canada. The English-speaking immigrants outnumber many fold all those of other tongues, and thus it is made sure that both the great Republic and the nascent nation adjoining will be loyal to the idea of constitutional liberty, and, standing side by side, will work together to advance that Anglo-Saxon civilisation which seems destined to dominate the world."

It is questionable if there is a more fascinating country in the world for young men than Canada.

"People must be taught such elementary facts," it was pointed out, "as that maize, which cannot be grown in Britain, is one of the most important crops in Ontario and Quebec; that in southern Ontario whole districts are given up to the

Cultivation of Grapes

and peaches, which in Britain requires glass and artificial heat; that tomatoes which in the old country flourish with difficulty under the shelter of a southern wall with us ripen in wild profusion in the fields; that the Canadian summer brings to splendid maturity anywhere in the open melons which in the British Isles have to be coaxed to grow with all sorts of scientific cunning. When the people at home learn to treat Canada as the land of Indian corn and peaches and melons, and pumpkins and tobacco and grapes and tomatoes, the barrier which now turns aside the tide of emigration will finally disappear."

I have learned that at no time during history of Canada have greater efforts been made than of late to induce Britishers to settle in that vast territory.

The special advantages offered to British settlers in Canada at present are:—

1. A free grant of 160 acres on condition of three years' residence and simple improvements on the land.

2. Greater success in grain growing, cattle and sheep raising. Dairying or mixed farming is more certain in Canada than in any other country in the world to those willing to work and exercise economy, especially during the first few years.

3. In no country is law and order more readily observed.

4. Healthy climate.

5. Its educational institutions are among the best in the world—the public schools being free schools.

6. The establishment of churches of all denominations is always found to go hand in hand with settlement.

7. Railways penetrate all settled districts, and are being constructed as rapidly as settlement demands, often in advance of settlement.

8. Good markets and good prices for produce, which are always easily disposed of.

9. Farming in Canada is exceedingly easy and remunerative.

10. Civil and religious liberty receive the fullest recognition.

11. Not the least of the advantages is the fact that Canada is a British Colony, and that those who settle in the Dominion in no way alter their allegiance, and remain British subjects in the truest sense of the term.

As many correspondents of the *Weekly Record* have been asking information regarding Canada with the object of emigrating to that country, I got into touch with a number of Dominion officials and obtained from them some of the information requested.

In the United Kingdom many of the people who are overcrowding our large cities want to go back to the land. But under present conditions it would be useless for them to take to farming in this country, because it would not be profitable. But in Canada there is plenty of land and every assistance given to those who are ready to settle upon it.

People who have intentions of going to

Canada and settling there should endeavour first of all to ascertain the class of workers most in demand. Persons of small capital unacquainted with agriculture often desire to enter upon farm pursuits. Before this is done such individuals should acquire experience either by hiring out as a labourer or in some other way. For

persons with a substantial sum of money at their disposal Canada affords unlimited openings. They can, it is stated, engage in agricultural pursuits, taking up free grant lands or purchasing the improved farms to be found in advantageous positions in every province; or in mining or in the manufacturing industries.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

They are Good in all Western Canada.

A N important consideration for a settler here, as elsewhere, is the educational facilities available, and the school system of Manitoba and the Western territories is by educationists claimed to be equal to any on the continent. In Manitoba the rural schools are about every three miles or so apart in the settled districts, and the system is free. There is no taxation of pupils for attendance. The government makes an annual grant of a considerable sum to each school, and all the expenses, teacher's salary included, are paid by this grant, and a general taxation of the land within the district, whether occupied or unoccupied, or owned by parents or those having no children. This assures the poor all the advantages of primary education that are enjoyed by the rich. The teachers are all skilled educationists, duly certificated. In these schools all the ordinary branches for every-day life are taught. In many of the village schools, where two or more teachers are employed, a still higher education is given, and in the city and town schools, collegiate institutes are maintained where students are fitted for the several colleges at Winnipeg, and other cities in Canada. One-eighteenth part of the whole of the "Fertile Belt" from Pembina to Saskatchewan, and beyond it, is set apart for the maintenance of schools.

The settlers who are coming in such numbers across the international boundary to cast in their lot with ours in Western Canada are coming into a country where they very soon realise that the will of the people rules. There is a greater freedom, a better administration of justice and greater respect for the law, guaranteeing the equal

rights of all, in Canada than there is in the United States. The security of life and property is greater. The accessions to our population which we are now receiving from the United States are very largely of British origin. They are our own stock. Their interests, once they make their homes on Canadian soil, becomes Canadian. So it has always been; and that it will continue so is not to be doubted. The people of this country are only too glad to take the chance, if our Minneapolis contemporary chooses to regard it as a chance, that a different result will follow.

It is beyond question true, as the Journal points out, that this movement of population will make for friendly relations between the two countries. We have no objection in the world to that. But it is in the States, not in Canada, that the need exists for this influence being exercised. Canada has always been ready to deal in a friendly, neighbourly way with her neighbour to the South; but her advances have not been met in a like spirit. It is entirely within the mark to say that the people of this country have just ground of resentment on account of the policy which the United States has uniformly put into operation against the Dominion. If the history of our international regulations continues in the future to be what it has been in the past, the settlers who are now coming across the line to become Canadians, will unquestionably share the sentiments of all other Canadians towards the United States. Their attachment will be to the land where their homes are, where their families are growing up, where all their interests are anchored. They will be Canadians. — *Winnipeg (Man.) Free Press.*

HOW TO MAKE COMPARISONS.

Ten Years in Canada.

IN the year 1892, William Smith, a Derbyshire farm labourer, having saved a few pounds, emigrated to Alberta, in Western Canada, with his family of three sons and three daughters. On arrival at his destination he had barely £50 in his pocket and no home to go to, but he bravely went to work, obtained a free grant of 160 acres of good land, built a little house, using for it the trees that grew on his own land, bought a cow and three ponies and a plough, and commenced to prepare his land for crop.

In the same year Algernon Fitzmaurice, Esq., arrived in Canada from England. He brought with him considerable means, a vast quantity of luggage, and a wife and three children. Having bought a farm near William Smith's he erected a good house and commenced farming, sometimes giving Smith the few days employment which he badly needed.

Mr. Fitzmaurice did not think it necessary to do any work, poor Smith toiled early and late. His three sons obtained employment from neighbouring farmers and faithfully brought their wages home, while two of his daughters went out as domestic servants.

Ten years passed—Mr. William Smith and his family are now owners of 960 acres of land easily worth £1,000. They have 12 horses, 53 head of cattle, comfortable houses and farm buildings, and are quite free of debt.

Two of his daughters are married to prosperous farmers, and are quite independent. All this has been accomplished in ten years as a result of steady perseverance.

Mr. Fitzmaurice has also lived ten years on his farm, and as a result of his failure to take advantage of his opportunities his horses and cattle are all sold, his buildings are in a very dilapidated condition, and he has not been able to buy any more land, and worst of all there is a very heavy mortgage on it. He has written to his friends in England for money to take him back to his old home again, and he says he knows enough about Canada to last him as long as he lives.

William Smith will very probably be the purchaser of the Fitzmaurice farm soon, and he writes home to his friends in England advising them to come and share

with him the prosperity which is the sure reward of faithfully persevering labour in Alberta.

The only fiction in this is in the names, all other particulars are absolutely true.

T. G. PEARCE.
Agricola, Alberta, Canada.

Mr. Ernest Klots, formerly of Elmore, Ohio, in a letter to the "Elmore Independent," speaking of conditions in Western Canada, says:—

"It is astonishing how fast this country is being settled. I was one of the early settlers of Nebraska and grew up with that country, therefore I am able to make comparisons, but I must say I have never seen anything like this before. In August and September the immigration was so enormous that the people could not be taken care of hotels and boarding houses were overfilled, and the Government was obliged to furnish tents for their temporary use. A year ago the mail trains passed through here three times a week each way, to day we have two trains each way daily. Last year they had only one threshing machine in this immediate vicinity; to-day we have eight of them, and they all are busy. How is that for progress?"

"In the way of an excuse I will say that it was not my intention to stay up here when I left Elmore, but to look at the country and assist the boys in locating and settling here, and then to return and stay at Elmore with the rest of my family at least until spring. But as I liked the country so well and as the climate agreed with me so wonderfully, I soon gave up the idea of returning, and instead, instructed my family to follow me."

Right Rev. Dr. Pinkam, Bishop of Saskatchewan and Calgary in a recent interview said that not one person in a thousand seems to realise the rapidity with which the North-west is growing and the consequent gravity of the crisis through which the Church of England is passing in the newer parts of the country. The rush of immigration is unprecedented, and though there are as yet no cities as large as Montreal and Toronto, there are a great number of small towns, which are growing at a much more rapid rate than any in the East.

FARM HANDS REQUIRED TO GATHER IN THE HARVEST.

Work in Lumber Camps and on Railroads.

A N Ontario man just settled in Alberta, writing to the "Toronto Globe" lately, said the people in the Eastern provinces "knew as little of Alberta as they did of Central India." So it is in many instances with Western Canada. The misconceptions and lack of knowledge prevailing outside regarding this fertile province, are to be met with everywhere. For instance, even no further south than Minneapolis it is often said that our favoured land is frost-bound half the year, with winters as cold as within the arctic circle. People never seem to discover that the climate varies little from what it is south of the line. From this cold theory they consequently argue that for labour there is no demand during the winter. Across the Atlantic in the older European countries, the prevailing sentiment is that Western Canada being, as they imagine, a purely agricultural country, those who don't find work on farms have to go idle; that during the winter, when there is little to do on the farm, the owner turns them adrift, and they thus spend all the money they made in the summer time keeping themselves during the long winter. The fact is that in winter, just as in summer, the man who is able to do manual labour—and that is the class wanted—will find a demand for his services in the bush and at railway work, and will receive good wages. In fact, during the past year the supply of labour has not been equal to the demand. A good, steady, able-bodied man can get work at any time. It may not be always to his liking, but it will suit him until he "strikes" something better.

In the summer months those who wish may go on farms, and can—if they have some experience—easily get work at from £4 to £5 a month, and an engagement up to the time the crop has been harvested. Especially during the harvest there is a tremendous demand for men and very high wages are paid, as much as \$2.50 per day and board being given during the harvest season last fall, the crop being so heavy than an unusually large staff of men was required to garner it. A large number

engaged in the harvest fields came from Ontario and the Maritime Provinces, and returned again as soon as the work was over. Some idea of the extra men required to handle the great wheat riches of these rolling prairies may be gathered from the fact that when the golden grain was "ripening into harvest," in the course of two weeks, 18,375 men came into Manitoba in response to the call of the farmers here for help. On one occasion between 4,000 and 5,000 men reached the metropolitan city of Winnipeg within 24 hours. It did not take many days to find the horde of labourers busy at work among the grain field, and indeed the demand was so great that 5,000 more could easily have found themselves comfortably installed in situations. So great a demand for farm labourers only occurs in the autumn months, when the great wheat crop is being harvested. But, at the same time, as soon as the snow passes away in the spring months, the farmer begins to require men to help him to put in the seed, and from thence onward the farm labour market seldom slackens.

The work on the prairie farm differs considerably from that in the Old Country—differs inasmuch as it is generally not so thorough—but the young man who has been reared on a farm will find it in many instances easier than he did at home. For one thing, the same skill is not required, and as greater areas have to be cultivated by an equal force of men, it stands to reason that the same amount of care cannot be given to the land. An Old Country farmer would think almost incredible the amount of wheat a man can "put in"—doing all the ploughing, sowing and harrowing—in the course of the short spring months. But sitting on a good gang plough, driving a quartette of rapid-travelling horses, over fields with a half-a-mile furrow in length, a man covers quite a bit of ground in a day.

The main point on a Manitoba prairie farm is to be active, but it may be said that owing to the use of machinery of the most improved character in all departments of agricultural work, the manual

labour is not so hard as if the labourer was trudging away at the same task in the older countries. And, besides, there is always before him the ambition to have a farm of his own—a position he can easily obtain within a few years in this country—and well he knows that in the Old World this is a golden pinnacle, which he may admire with envious eyes in the distance, but try as he might could hardly ever reach.

But, as has been pointed out, apart from farm labour, there is always abundance of work of other kinds to be got. For the last two or three years, it has only been necessary to go along Main Street, Winnipeg, and glance at the bulletins of the employment agents to find where he could get work in plenty. Any day he would see intimations wanting from 50 to 1,000 men to work on railway construction or in the bush. For some time a vast amount of railway development has been going on in the west. The construction of these lines requires thousands of men, who may get work almost any time of the year. In the summer months the great bulk of the grading is done, but in the winter men are largely employed in rock work. The railway undertakings are by no means exhausted, but on the contrary, may be said to be really in their infancy. The lines of the Canadian Northern railway are being pushed along with great vigour. About 1,000 miles of the trunk line has been completed, and as it is to be a transcontinental road connecting the Pacific and Atlantic coasts it will be seen that the third part of it has not yet been

built. The making of this great line of railway will be hurried with the utmost speed. The Canadian Pacific railway is also being extended in various directions. Thus, any man who is unable to find work on a farm and who wishes to make a little money before taking up a homestead—and during six months of each year after he has done so—can work on railroad construction and get good wages, food of the best quality being also provided.

Then there is the bush, another never failing source of income for a labouring man during the winter months. The "farm hand" who finds himself out of work in the winter, or would prefer to make higher wages than the farmer cares to pay for going about the farm when there is little to be done, can get employment in the log camp, taking out logs for lumbering purposes at £5 to £6 per month; in the cordwood camps cutting wood for fuel by "the piece," or driving a team at £5 to £6 a month, or cutting ties for the railway companies at similar wages. The men are housed in camps during winter and right in the middle of the virgin forest. Men have to "rough" it a good deal in the bush, and the work is hard, but the food supply is abundant and good, and the bright and bracing climate makes a man feel fit and strong for his task. And men who have not before been in the bush will at the outset at least find it most interesting work, as the men who form the average crew in the bush camp in Canada are about the most cosmopolitan under the sun—they literally belong to all civilised nations.

GROWING POTATOES AND VEGETABLES.

THE general adaptability alike of the soil and climate of Manitoba to the growth of the whole round of agricultural products is borne further testimony to by the results obtained by those who plant potatoes. At one time a popular fallacy prevailed to the effect that potatoes would not ripen in some parts of the Canadian North-west on account of the climatic difference between this country and its native soil. It is recorded that at one time a person with an ardent attachment for this popular tuber undertook to grow it under glass, believing it would not thrive in the open air; but experiments proved that the potato could be grown on

Hudson's Bay, at Ft. Churchill, in Keewatin, 600 miles north of Winnipeg, just as easily as they could in the soil of old Ireland, and at the present day there is perhaps no other place where potatoes of such large size and fine quality are grown as they are in Manitoba. Different results are doubtless obtained with different kinds of seed, but the general result is uniformly good. Illustrations of extraordinary yields of potatoes of large size are constantly coming to light. Mr. Robert Lamb, of Macgregor, obtained three pounds of seed called "American Wonder," from the Dominion Experimental farm at Ottawa, which yielded 120

pounds, a return of 40 fold. Another gentleman, Mr. Stephen Lines, of St. Vital, secured 131 pounds of the same kind of seed from the same source, and he states that the yield was fully 600 bushels to the acre. There were 24,429 acres of potatoes planted in Manitoba in 1901, and the yield was 4,797,433 bushels, or 196 bushels to the acre on an average. The five years from 1897 to 1901 show an average yield of 162 bushels of potatoes to the acre in the entire province. The following figures give the official returns, showing the acreage, average and total yields for the five years:

Yield of Potatoes—1897 to 1901.

	Crop Acres.	Yield Bush.	Yield Bush.
1897	13,576	149	2,032,298
1898	19,791	165	3,253,038
1898	8,448	292	2,471,715
1900	16,880	132	2,226,880
1901	24,429	196	4,797,433

The size of Manitoba Potatoes attracts attention wherever they are exhibited. It is no rare thing for one tuber to weigh 4½ pounds, and those weighing 3 pounds each are so common as not to call for any particular remark. The average yield from twelve varieties of potatoes during three years at the experimental farm, Brandon, was 343 bushels 50 pounds per acre.

The large amount of moisture in the soil of Manitoba at planting time makes the percentage of germination of the seed potato very high. It is planted during the last week of May and the crop dug during the first week of October.

Nearly all the vegetables that grow in a temperate climate flourish most luxuriantly in Manitoba. Tomatoes sometimes fail to ripen, but always bear a large quantity of fruit. Onions, cabbage, asparagus, beans, beets, cauliflower, pumpkins, squash, parsnips, cucumbers, celery, lettuce, radish, etc., are all easily grown; the quality of these vegetables is excellent. The ordinary specimens grown in the gardens equal in size those shown in fairs in other parts of the world and judged to be unusually large. The quantity that the soil will produce is almost beyond belief with people unused to the country. At Brandon there were fifty-two different varieties of onions grown in 1899. The average yield was nearly 270 bushels to the acre. The largest average yield was 662 bushels to the acre, and the smallest 101 bushels. Cauliflowers grew to an average weight of from 5 to 7 pounds each; cabbages from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 14 pounds each; beets yielded from 670 to 795 bushels to the acre, and carrots 563 bushels to the acre.

LETTERS FROM WESTERN CANADA.

An opinion from a Clergyman.

To the Commissioner of Immigration,

Winnipeg.

DEAR SIR.—In reply to your request I send you this letter, giving my frank opinion of Canada as a field for immigration. Being a preacher, but not a farmer, I can only tell what the people who have immigrated to this country say about it, and what I have with my own eyes seen. I have travelled quite extensively over Manitoba, Eastern part of Assiniboia, and Northern Alberta, and cannot from my own experience write about other parts of this great Dominion.

On the whole, I believe that the people who have come to this country from the old and the new world are pretty well satisfied with their lot. The soil is in many places very rich, and the Government seem to do a great deal to help the new settler and satisfy his wants. As a field for poor immigrants I know of no country in the world which offers better inducements. I know many who have in a few

years accumulated thousands of dollars. But one thing is certain and that is that the immigrant must work hard, and often endure much hardship while he is making a start; and in most instances the reward of his labour is success.

Those parts of Manitoba and the Western Territories which are at present open to new settlers seem to be best adapted for mixed farming, and here in the West those farmers have been most successful who have engaged either exclusively in stock-raising or in mixed farming. It takes money to start agricultural farming—more money than the immigrant usually has, without borrowing. And, the new comer, I would advise not to get into debt, at the start; it has been the ruin of many who have wanted to make much money in a short time.

The Government of Canada seems to be very kindly disposed and helpful. This fact has induced many to endure the other difficulties which an immigrant has to put



Horses in Western Canada Riverbed.

up with at first, after moving into a new and strange country. Of course, the climate is in general Canada quite severe; but, where timber fuel are plentiful the immigrants from Northern Europe do not mind that so much. They seem to get acclimatised very soon.

Having for over five years labored as pastor in Manitoba and the Western Territories, I am sure I can truthfully say that the majority of my parishioners consider that they have made a change for the better by immigrating to this country.—Yours truly,

JNO. J. CLEMENS,
(German Lutheran Pastor.)
Calgary, N.W.T.
November 13th, 1901.

Canadian Immigration.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE *Daily Chronicle*.

SIR,—I have read the correspondence upon Canadian Immigration with much interest, but I think Canada is hardly getting fair play at the hands of the many failures who give their narrow views. As a fairly successful (English) colonist, and one who has lived in the country for several years, I should like to bear testimony. I went out at the age of nineteen, and had £7 when I landed. I worked on a farm for seven months for seven dols. a month, then for five months on another at six dols. per month (winter), made tracks for the wheat plains. saved

over £21 in seven months, besides travelling from one end of Manitoba to the other gaining all the experience possible. Returned north to see about wintering three two-year-old heifers, one cow and calf bought previous year, all of which were fed and housed in return for my attending to six cows and two horses. In spring I had £60 sent me, made a start with another chum. In five more years I had the following (all paid for): Homestead, with two large sables and shanty, thirty acres fenced and ploughed, two part Clydesdale horses, one two-year-old colt, one one-year-old colt, seven cows (two of which were pure bred), three two-year-olds, five one-year-olds, one thoroughbred calf, four grade calves, three sheep, wagon, mowing machine, sleigh, harrows, two ploughs, besides a miscellaneous lot of tools, feed, grain, &c., in all worth about £180. Add to this the value of 160 acres of land it makes about £300. All the hard work done and just getting on my feet as it were. It is only fair to state that during this time I had two failures of crops. As long as the wrong sort of young men go to the West there will be disappointed grumblers.—Yours, &c.,

February 14th. — PIONEER.

— PLEASANT VALLEY, ALBERTA,
WESTERN CANADA,

December 25th, 1901.

DEAR FRIEND,—“I once more write you

a few lines, hoping to find you well, as this leaves us all at present. The weather is very fine, no storms, no snow, no cold. The crops have been very fine. We got 3,100 bushels of oats and 585 bushels of barley off 45 acres on our new homestead in Pleasant Valley. The grain is of the best quality. We get 30 cents. for it at home. The oats are of Swedish kind, which you had at your office. It is very heady. All crops are good here, and the cattle are a sight to see. They are so fat they can hardly walk. They run out all winter. We like it here. Our only sorrow is the terrible death of our darling child, and how black it looked a year ago I cannot tell you. How we lived through it I do not know. The girls are at home. We put up 150 tons of hay this summer. We have 20 head of cattle. I meet many old friends from my old home. Our crop this year paid us £200 for one year's work. We got good water at 14 feet. We have 12 pigs and 50 chickens. We have worked very hard. We had to go crazy. What a blessing work is for sorrow. I cannot see very well; my eyes fail. Now, friend, you correct this letter and put it in shape, and send it to the North, so my old friends at home can hear and hope to see you out here. We broke 30 acres more this year and built two miles of fence. Well, Mr. Currie, I have to close for the time. Hoping to hear from you."

I remain, yours,

MR. AND MRS. SAM.

LACOMBE.

March 1st, 1901.

DEAR SIR,—“I will write you again to inform you of my whereabouts. I have written several letters to those Wisconsin neighbours informing them concerning the good qualities of this country, and I have bought one quarter-section and am going to start on Monday to take up a home-



A country road in Western Canada.

stead for myself and one for my boy, and I have sent the official documents to two parties in Wisconsin to sign and return, so I can file on quarters for them. I expect to write to eight or ten parties next week to come as soon as possible to take up land. I will use my energy to populate this splendid country. I would like to see more of the country than I am seeing, but I am not fixed financially, as my money is tied up in Wisconsin at present. I met a delegate from Iowa yesterday, and he told me that there was two hundred cars chartered for Alberta, and there is people coming from York State to Washington, immigrating to Alberta. I will try hard to have all my friends sell in Wisconsin and locate in this territory. I have been expecting to hear from you before this. I never met a more intelligent class of people in my life than is coming in here, and every one seems to think the same. This is a community to be proud of anywhere. It is mail time, so I must close.”

Goodbye.

J. HOOPLE,

Bentley, Alberta.

PONOKA, ALBERTA.

December 10th, 1901.

DEAR SIR,—“I have been going to write you a few lines in answer to your request, but have neglected to do so.

“I obtained a fine homestead 12 miles from town, and bought some C.P.R. land at \$3 per acre. I am well satisfied with the change and well suited with the country. I filed May 1st, broke five acres of land and sowed to oats; cut them about Sept. 20th, and had ripe grain. Will have enough to feed my horses and cows on through the winter. Raised 40 bushels of fine potatoes and other garden truck.” I think a man can do well enough here if he is not afraid of work. A good soil and climate, plenty of rain and sunshine to make crops grow right along.

“I built a frame house 14 by 22, a log barn, hen coop, machine shed, did quite a lot of fencing, and have 10 acres ready for crop next spring. I have done no hiring of help except when building my house. Well, I must close, thanking you for past favours.”

I remain, yours truly,

R. N. HOLT,

Ponoka, Alta., N.W.T.

FARM NOTES.

MR. LISTER, of Dursley, who is the chairman of the Agricultural Implement Manufacturers' Association of England, and who has taken a line which English manufacturers are often accused of ignoring, inasmuch as he has practically travelled the world through in the extension of his business, has returned from Canada after a lengthened and comprehensive examination of the country. His conclusion is that there is room for a million farmers in the West. He says that in the present year 40,000 farmers have produced 100,000,000 bushels of grain, and he knows of no other country where land can be cultivated so cheaply, and—may I add?—where land is so easily obtained. Not only is the country level and practically free from timber and rock, but the soil is rich, light, and in large part alluvial. A man with a small capital can still obtain 360 acres of land from the government; he is entitled on very simple conditions to a free grant of 160 acres, and to an additional adjoining 160 acres on payment of 12s. 6d. an acre—the payment to extend over four years. Still more; he can buy timber for his house and buildings and for fuel at merely nominal charges; or if he prefers to ranch he can hire 10,000 acres, or anything, indeed, up to 100,000 acres, at the rate of 1d. an acre on a lease of years. Canada wants settlers, but it wants men of the right sort, and although such men, pioneers in their way, can easily obtain a decent livelihood at home, they are able to acquire a decent property for the asking in a country where there are practically no tax collectors and no single soul to interfere or to dictate so long as a man pays his way. Mr. Lister very properly points out that there is no room in the West for ne'er-do-wells, men who expect to live without work, or upon remittances from their friends. What is wanted is the man who understands farm work in all its branches, especially the management of horses and stock of other kinds, ploughing, sowing, harvesting, and, by no means least of all, how to use carpenters' tools; for the pioneer must depend upon himself in chief part to erect his own homestead and to keep it in order. Nothing is lost by the expenditure of time in the joiner's shop, in learning how to mix paints, and to use those tools which apply to metal, glass, and other work. As those who have been

to the West of Canada know full well, the successful settler is a handy man, but he is invariably a man who has taken pains to learn the customs of the country on somebody else's farm before he has taken one of his own. It often happens where an emigrant possesses a small capital—which saves a great deal of anxiety and labour if it is judiciously spent—that, instead of going right away into the back country and taking up a free grant of land, he finds during a couple of years' employment as a hired man that he can buy a farm nearer to a town and to a railway at a very nominal price, in consequence of the removal or death of an occupier, who has reclaimed and brought his holding under cultivation. There is a good deal of dealing in farms of 160 acres or more, and the man on the spot who knows his work is frequently able to buy in this way if he bides his time. The man who goes out in the expectation of doing first-rate work right off the reel is certain to find his level, and he will soon ascertain that there is a great deal to learn before he can come abreast of the men who have been farming for years.

A drawback in Western Canada, Mr. Lister tells us, is the shortage of women for wives, and he suggests that young men should go out and make a home for themselves and subsequently send home for their wives. There are in Manitoba alone 16,000 fewer women than men. Dealing with the subject of the labour question, in which wise emigrants, as well as the ordinary workmen of the provinces hire themselves to the farmers, all are fed, lodged, and treated exactly as members of the family, sitting at the same table. He tells us, too, that he has sat down at many such meals, and has always found that the men come to table with clean hands and behave like gentlemen—facts which are mainly due, in his opinion, to the removal of those social distinctions which are so closely observed in older countries. We are frequently told in England that wheat-growing fails to pay. This can scarcely be said of Canada, for I remember quoting in these columns a statement made to me on the homestead of one of the keenest farmers in Manitoba—that if he only obtained a minimum crop and sold it at a minimum price he could pay his way, and prices have practically not altered since that date.

A Letter addressed to the High Commissioner for Canada from Alberta.

To the RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD STRATHCONA AND MOUNT ROYAL, G.C.M.G., 53, Grosvenor Square, London, S.W.

"My Lord.—It has occurred to me that letters from actual settlers descriptive of the western parts of Canada may be instrumental in aiding the cause of immigration to our country, and may perhaps convince many of my British fellow subjects that Western Canada has advantages to offer immigrants that no other country in the world can equal.

"Having had an experience of ten years as a farmer here. I may fairly claim some knowledge of the country, and having also emigrated from England, I am in a position to know what the emigrant from the "old home land" can accomplish, if he is willing to work faithfully and intelligently in a manner suitable to the requirements of soil and climate.

"The ideas of Canada entertained by the average Briton are the subject of much amusement to us in Canada. We are credited with having an Arctic winter, and are supposed to be subject to many dangers and privations, none of which have I encountered as yet. I was one of the first to settle in this district, when it was as Nature made it. There are no animals or reptiles to be feared, and the reputed severity of our winters exists only in the minds of those who are without experience of Western Canada.

"Most people overlook the fact that latitude does not invariably determine climate. Altitude exerts quite as much influence, and where I write is in precisely the same latitude as the central parts of England.

"Exactly as the climate of England is modified by the warm ocean currents of the tropics across the Atlantic, so is Western Canada affected by the tropical currents of the Pacific Ocean, which result in giving a much milder climate in this latitude.

"During a considerable portion of the winter just past, three of my sons, with sleighs and four horses, were engaged some sixteen miles from home in cutting timber for building and fencing. At night they blanketed their horses, wrapped themselves in a fur robe, and slept comfortably on the hay they carried for their horses, with no shelter but that of their sleigh boxes. The elder of the boys, who

had served in Lord Strathcona's Horse in Africa, often said he had suffered more from cold rains while in camp in Lydenburg country, in South Africa, than on a cold night here with a foot of snow on the ground.

"Our soil is a rich black mould, generally without a trace of sand, gravel, or stone, and mostly deeper on high land. It is the product of ages of decayed vegetation, and is capable of producing heavy crops of all cereals, grasses and vegetables.

"My cattle are out all the winter in a large field, sheltered only by an open shed and numerous straw stacks that have been placed where the threshing machines had been working. It is, I find, better to allow cattle their liberty than to keep them tied in a stable.

"Any young man with ordinary intelligence can, with a little capital, raise himself to a position of independence here that he can never hope to attain in England. Many who ten years ago possessed nothing but strong hands and willing hearts are now the owners of good farms and comfortable homes, and are able to enjoy the many advantages which the Canadian farmer finds available.

"We hear much discussion of closer Imperial unity, yet the surprising fact remains that our own people, whom we would gladly welcome to Canada, do not appear to realise how much they can improve their condition by joining their fellow Britishers here, and helping us to strengthen the Imperial connection that we Canadians value so highly.

"Immigrants from the United States, from Germany, from Russia, Austria, Scandinavia and other 'European' countries are pouring into Canada, while those in Great Britain, who should know and value the rich heritage at their disposal, are losing opportunities of acquiring homes for themselves, but are allowing enterprising foreigners to dispossess them of the best parts of Canada's fertile prairies.

"In conclusion, I would say that I will gladly reply to any correspondence I may receive asking for information relative to immigration to Alberta, realising that every loyal Briton who joins us in Canada is a source of strength to that Imperial consolidation for which we are earnestly striving.

"I have the honour to be, my Lord,

"Your obedient servant,

"T. G. PEARCE."

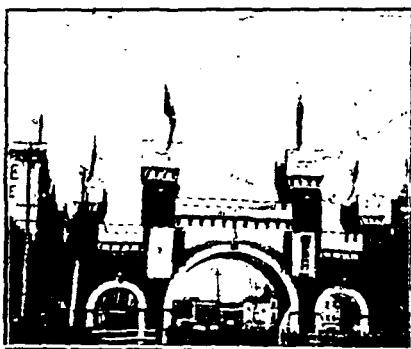
Agricola, Alberta, Canada.

May 10th, 1902.

An Opinion for the Midlands.

M. T. de Wolfe, W. R. Jeffers, D. R. Kent, Guy P. Jeffers went to Western Canada as delegates from Cottonwood Co., Minnesota. In their report to the representatives of the Canadian Government at St. Paul they say:—

"At Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, we left the railway track and drove around. We liked the locality so well that each has purchased land there, and intend to homestead as well. We found the crops excellent, and we consider that locality cannot be excelled for mixed farming. While on our drive we met a man who had been located there for about fifteen years, and in talking his experience over we asked him for the average of his crop for the last three years, with which to compare with the average crop for the same period on land owned by one of the



Winnipeg Wheat Arch, Prince of Wales's late Visit.

undersigned.—His average crop was 22¹/₂ bushels per acre on land which could be purchased for \$3 per acre. The average crop of the undersigned for the same period was 11 bushels per acre on land costing \$30 per acre. So that if this comparison is worth anything at all, it indicates that with the average crop for the past three years on the land of this man at Saskatoon, his land is worth, from a producer's standpoint, £20 per acre when compared with the land mentioned in Minnesota. From Saskatoon we went to Rothesay, and drove for a couple of days to the North Saskatchewan River, and met a number of Minnesota Germans, who were all pleased with the country, and stated that they

liked the locality, the climate and its productiveness much better than they did their old homes in Minnesota.

"We found the same excellent condition of affairs at Prince Albert; but for ourselves we believe the district around Saskatoon and Dundurn to be as good as any person wants. We never saw more people in one locality who were well pleased with their prosperity and surroundings than we found in the districts mentioned. Indeed, one old gentleman said that he believed he was living in the Garden of Eden were it not for a few mosquitos occasionally."

"We have had abundant opportunity of noticing the crops wherever we have been, and we found very few that we could call ordinary crops. We considered them all magnificent."

"Everybody seemed perfectly satisfied, and we have come to the conclusion that a man with money can invest with profit, and a poor man can become fairly well off in a reasonable time with hard work, and we have no hesitation in saying that if a person can get money together sufficient to take him to the locality mentioned, the sooner he gets there the better. We have to thank you and the Department for the courtesy extended, and we expect to return next spring with a large number of our friends."

THOS. SALE says:—"I have seen, with the foregoing gentlemen, the country they describe in the above report, and have come to a like decision with them—viz., to settle in it. As one who is fully acquainted with the conditions of farming life in England (especially the Midlands). I hope to be able to influence my friends and relatives who are farmers in England, paying heavy rentals and toiling hard for a bare living, when by coming here they can have a good farm and be comfortably fixed in a few years, and, from what I see, work no harder, if as hard, as they do at home."

"Since the days when Mr. Jesse Collings conjured up the shining vision of 'three acres and a cow,' a monotonous world has seen nothing so alluring as '160 acres for nothing.' But why is Canada giving away 160 acres of free land to all approved comers for nothing? Within ten years she will control the grain market of the world. That is her hope and belief. And the wheat grounds of America, limitless as they are, cannot hope to compete with her. Last

year 110,000,000 bushels of grain were produced by Manitoba and the North-West Provinces, and if information is not at fault between 50,000 and 60,000 farmers reaped that vast crop as the fruit of their industry.

"Last year Canada opened her arms to 50,000 settlers from England, the United States, Europe and elsewhere. In three-and-a-half years 50,000 American farmers have forsaken their native land to seek richer bounty in Canada."—"Morning Leader," London, March 17th, 1902.

FROM FARM LABOURER TO PROPRIETOR.

We have had an opportunity of reading a further budget of ten letters from Scottish ploughmen who emigrated to Canada last year. One of these is from Mr. George Pratt, late of Netherton, Insch, Aberdeenshire, and now of Souris, Manitoba. After stating that he likes the country, which is really better than he expected, he says:—"This has been a splendid winter; I never experienced a better winter in Scotland, nor would I ask for a better in any country. No Scotchman need be afraid of the winter in Manitoba. From the prospects that there are here of becoming your own master, I think the Scotch farm labourer would do well to come to this country, as he would have ten times the chance of making a home for himself that he would have over in Scotland. I am living five miles from Souris on a farm with Mr. James Cowan, and since I came to him I have got along splendidly, for he is a fine man. Mr. Cowan was a farm labourer in the old country and came to Manitoba 20 years ago. He has now 480 acres of as fine land as ever the sun shone on, and all paid for. He has lots of stock and farm implements besides, and has also raised a family. I believe my chances are even better than his were."—*Dundee Advertiser*.

Mr. Jas. F. McMillan, of Brandon, Man., Canada, in a letter to the "Nottingham Daily Guardian," February 20th, 1902, writes as follows:—

"Sir, —Having received a suggestion from a resident in your city that news from a correspondent in the far Canadian North-West might prove acceptable, I take the opportunity of writing you a few lines with the hope that they may be of some interest to your many subscribers, if not to intending settlers. In the first place I am sorry to learn of the ignorance of the English people as regards the English

Colonies, and particularly one of her richest and most promising possessions, namely Canada.

Canada needs settlers, but she does not want all sorts, or those of all ages or conditions, without regard to quality. Her great need is for sturdy working men and women who will help to develop the country. No matter though their means be small after they land, if they are of the right sort they can soon make their way here. It is satisfactory to learn from some of the Canadian Agencies in the British Isles and Europe that there are signs of increased interest in Canada among those Europeans who show a disposition to emigrate. Our development is now proceeding at an unusual rate, affording openings for willing workers not thought of a few decades ago. The illimitable resources of this country must necessarily create a deep impression, and stimulate the tide of emigration in England. We here in Canada wish, and always will, that England may soon awaken to the fact of our undeveloped resources. The province of Manitoba has yet room for thousands of farmers and labourers. There are 25,000,000 acres that can be cultivated, and only 3,000,000 under cultivation. For those who prefer cattle or sheep ranching, the Alberta country is the best adapted for this purpose. The grazing lands there are unsurpassed, and no finer climate for ranching in the world, in fact the cattle go all the year round without shelter in many districts. Many have started ranching on a little capital, and have done well. The Canadian Pacific, the largest trans-continental railway in the world, running a 3,000 miles. This road runs through the best farming section of Manitoba, and has numerous branch lines, so that the settler has no drawbacks with regard to transport. In conclusion, I might say that the man who is fond of the gun will find game of all kinds in abundance, such as ducks, wild geese, and prairie chickens."—I am, etc.,

(Signed) JAS. F. McMILLAN.

Fertile Canada.

A correspondent sends to the *Times* a few samples of tobacco grown in the open air at Prince Albert, on the banks of the Saskatchewan River, in the North-West Territories of Canada. Many people, the sender says, are of opinion that this part of our Empire is cold, unproductive, and inhospitable. I trust the accompany-

ing evidence may afford some proof that such is not the case. On November 1st, violets were growing in profusion in our gardens here, and to-day, the 13th, we have beautiful sunshine and clear bracing air. Since last April there have been long sunshiny days, cool nights, generous rains, and, as a result of such providential beneficence, along with a remarkably productive soil and the industry of a comparatively limited population, there are over sixty million bushels of wheat for export from the Canadian West this year. This land truly is destined to be the granary of the Empire. In the North-West Territories alone, consisting of Alberta, Assiniboia, and Saskatchewan, we have 30,000 square miles of land of unsurpassed fertility. A square mile contains six hundred and forty acres, so the above area contains about one hundred and ninety-two millions of acres—an enormous agricultural section. If a settler's taste is for ranching he can go to the foothills of the Rocky Mountains in Alberta; if wheat growing, mixed farming, dairying, cattle raising, &c., are more to his choice, then Eastern Assiniboia, Northern Alberta, and the great Saskatchewan valley are open to him. In Saskatchewan alone there are over 100,000 square miles of splendid rich soil open for settlement. The new trans-continental railroad—the Canadian Northern—is being pushed through the Saskatchewan valley onwards to Alberta, the Rockies, and the Pacific Ocean. This will be a great thoroughfare, with connections affording communication from sea to sea, from Atlantic to Pacific. Every settler can get one hundred and sixty acres of land free, and thus becomes a landowner for himself. Prospective emigrants from the old land should look carefully into the prospects and capabilities of the Canadian North-

West. Here is a land where every man of energy can make a home and lay up riches. He lives under the old flag, enjoys the liberty of British institutions, the protection of British laws, and around his own hearthstone he may smoke the pipe of peace with some of our Saskatchewan tobacco.

Major A. H. Eckford, of 8, Norfolk Square, Hyde Park, W., writing to the "Daily Chronicle," on 1st February, 1902, says:—

"I have had a personal knowledge and experience of Canada, extending over a period of sixteen or seventeen years. That is, I have been out there for many years during six or seven months of the year; but have found the cold dry and bracing and most enjoyable. I may mention the reason of my going out was to visit my son, who has from small beginnings gradually and steadily worked himself up into a good position, and has a fine ranche now. In one of my recent visits I came across a young man of twenty-two, only two years in that country—the son of a small village carpenter in the Western Highlands of Scotland. This lad was getting \$45 (£9) a month, riding and breaking-in horses. I could tell of many more young men who, by good behaviour and application, have done well."

Mr. G. B. Burgin, in a letter to the "Daily Chronicle," on February 10th, 1902, states:—

"That he was travelling in the North-West Territories last year, and his opinion of the country is such that he believes that if the emigrant who goes there is a strong hard-working young fellow of steady habits, he generally succeeds, lives in a kind of rude plenty, gradually becomes 'lord of fat oxen,' &c. Mr. Burgin's conviction is that did the ordinary English labourer know the conditions of life in Canada, in ten years' time there would be very few of his class left in the British Isles. What asks Mr. Burgin, has the English labourer to look forward to as a solace for the pains of old age? The workhouse. There are no workhouses in Canada. A man who will work can live, marry, bring up a helpful family, and enjoy his life."



A Canadian Wheatfield.

Mr. W. Lowe, of Madeley, writes as follows to the "Daily Chronicle," February 13th, 1902, with regard to his experience of Canadian farming:

"Sir.—On my arrival at Winnipeg, I, along with others, stated our requirements to the Canadian agent, and were dispatched by the first train the following morning, accompanied by a gentleman who put us off at different stations according to the demand. I was put off at Treherne, and in a few hours was engaged without difficulty at \$1 50 cents. (6s.) per day, with board and lodging. And I may add the treatment I received left nothing to be desired; in fact, I was much surprised. It was like being at home. There were plenty getting 8s., with board, threshing, but of course that is a rough kind of life. So far as I saw, the Englishman got the preference. They seemed pleased to meet people from the Old Country. We were welcomed wherever we went. I have had an interview this week with an English farmer, who went out 10 years ago, and arrived with £10. He now owns 160 acres, 25 head of cattle and necessary implements, and is now able to afford a trip home with his wife and three children, and he says there are plenty that have done better than he."

Mr. D. Jones, of Dugald, Manitoba, writes to the "Daily Chronicle":—

MARLAIS FARM.

DUGALD, MANITOBA,

March 7th, 1898.

"We left the Old Country just eighteen months ago and bought this farm, situated above twelve miles from Winnipeg, for which we gave 1,400 dollars. To procure suitable stock to start with we purchased ten cows and four horses, besides the required implements. Last year we had fifty acres under crop, and being our first year it turned out very successfully, and we had a yield of 600 bushels of wheat, 500 bushels of oats, and 450 bushels of barley. This, together with our dairy and other produce, brought in about £300. Since then we have more than doubled our stock, and the present value of the farm amounts to about 7,500 dollars, or £1,500.

"There is no country in the world where a farmer can live so well and so cheaply; the country is one of the healthiest in the world, far healthier than England in any part of it. Far be it from me that I should utter one word to draw any man from his home to come out here to meet with dis-

appointment, but I know that the country is all one can desire, and that there is every prospect for any industrious man to maintain himself in comfort and provide a home for his sons and daughters."

DAVID JONES.

7, Corsehill Street, Streatham, S.W.
February 12th.

Canadian Immigration.

To THE EDITOR OF THE *Daily Chronicle*.

SIR,—"I have watched with interest the correspondence in your columns re "Canadian migration," and as an old mine years' resident at Manitoba, I should like to point out a feature of Canadian life which seems to have been missed by previous correspondents, and one which I consider is a potent factor in procuring emigrants for that colony, and still more so in retaining them after settlement there.

"I refer now to that feeling of hope and ambition of being more than a nonentity—the possibility of being "something" or "somebody," not lost in the crowd, but



Wheat Harvesting.

holding some position of trust and confidence and honour, either on the municipal councils, farmers' associations, political field, in Church matters, &c., &c., where they can win the confidence and respect of their fellow-citizens. I am convinced it is the satisfaction of this ambition which attaches the settlers of Manitoba (I can't speak of the East) to the country of their adoption more than any other consideration.

"The fact that the holding of such public positions as I have mentioned is not closed

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to them, as here, if their means will not allow of the upkeep of an expensive social position, is a point that any intending emigrant would do well to take stock of. I believe anyone who has lived and worked among Manitobans will bear me out."

Yours faithfully,

C. T. LAMBERT.
1, Mansfield Road, Croydon.

Feb. 20th

TO THE EDITOR OF THE *Daily Chronicle*.

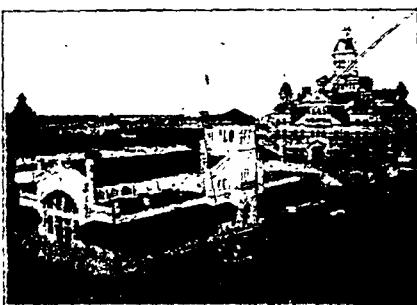
SIR,—“Will you allow me to say a word with regard to emigration to Canada in the light of twenty-six years’ experience of life in the Dominion? I spent my boyhood there, and in the year 1878 I entered upon seventeen years of service as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Canada. During all these years I never met with a single case of an industrious and capable emigrant failing to better himself; and I could fill a volume with cases of phenomenal success. There are people who would fail to make a living if you placed them in the Garden of Eden; and I am sorry a good many of these are to be found among us. There are three classes of people who are not suited for Colonial life. First: Those who have been pauperised and pampered by the squire and parson for generations, and are therefore badly prepared to take care of themselves in a new country, where the props they have leaned upon all their lives are out of their reach. Second: Those who have grown to manhood in the slums of our cities, and who take to the new country their vices and shiftlessness as their only capital; and third: Those who are filled with a shallow self-conceit, and who go out with the benevolent intention of teaching the Canadians “how they do things in the old country.” This class are particularly obnoxious to Canadians, and are either laughed at, or, if their impertinence becomes intolerable, are dealt with as their conduct deserves. It is well known that the large proportion of the prosperous men of Canada are either emigrants or the sons of emigrants. Any one who is ready to work and is gifted with what the Western Canadians call “horse sense” is sure to get on in Canada. The openings at the present time are greatly increased through recent developments, and it is no exaggeration to say that they are unsurpassed in any other part of our Empire.”

Yours, &c.,

P. McF. MACLEOD.

Feb. 21st.

When the pioneer farmer “struck” the fertile virgin prairies of Western Canada, put his plough into the ground, turned over the soil, sowed the seed and reaped a bountiful harvest, he thought that surely his lines had been cast in pleasant places. But when he was able to repeat this process year after year, without manuring the land, and the deep black loam never seemed to lose its crop-growing qualities he imagined he had reached the farmers’ El Dorado at last. Here, surely, was the place to live. Nothing to do but simply plough and sow and reap, and then “blow in” the golden dollars. What a relief was this from the ordinary routine of the old homestead, where there were cattle, poultry, and pigs to feed and attend to, butter making, cheese-making, and a score of other incidentals which go to make up



Winnipeg Market and City Hall.

the ordinary farmer’s working day. But bye-and-bye he found that the old-fashioned way to farm was the best, and that it was not altogether prudent to neglect the other departments of the farm. It was all very well to be a wheat grower, but it was almost possible to “wheat” oneself out of existence. Thus the sentiment has changed from wheat raising pure and simple to mixed farming, and those best able to judge are satisfied that it is the method most suitable for the conditions that prevail in this country, especially for the man of comparatively small means. If in any one year one of his crops should fail, the farmer can then always rely upon the other to make it up, and generally speaking there is hardly ever such a thing heard of as a failure in the live stock and dairy department.

THE HISTORY OF WHEAT GROWING IN MANITOBA.

IT is interesting to know that exactly one hundred years ago this summer the first sod was turned for the raising of food products in the Canadian North-West.

It is recorded that on the 17th of May, 1801, Alexander Henry, one of the partners of the North-West Fur Company, having secured a small supply of potatoes from the Company's post at Portage la Prairie, proceeded to a point on the east side of the Red River, near the international boundary, and planted thirty of them. It is further recorded that on the 3rd of October, that year, he took from the patch where they were planted one-and-a-half bushels of potatoes. Continuously thereafter he and others appear to have raised potatoes and other garden stuff in that vicinity, the yields recorded being in some cases so large as almost to excite incredulity.

For instance, the pioneer agriculturist, Alexander Henry, records that in 1802 he himself took upwards of 420 bushels of potatoes from a patch in which but seven bushels had been sown, and adds that the Indians had stolen upwards of 200 bushels more. An onion raised in the same garden that year measured 22 inches in circumference and a carrot 18 inches long. A turnip with its leaves weighed 25 pounds. Two years later it is recorded that Henry raised in his garden, besides the above mentioned varieties of vegetables, cucumbers, melons, squashes, and Indian corn. This is the first reference we find to a cereal having been grown in these regions. In 1806 oats were grown in the same locality, apparently for the first time. In the same year, in the district at the mouth of the Red River, the Indians grew some corn, the seed for which they obtained in the south. In 1812, it is recorded that barley was grown at various points of the fur trading companies in what is now the province of Manitoba.

The year 1812 was also notable for a more important event than the first planting of barley. In that year wheat was sown for the first time in this country. Lord Selkirk's first party of Scottish immigrants were located in this country in that year and they planted wheat on the land

which he had reserved for their use. For several years wheat and the coarser grains and vegetables were regularly grown in the Red River valley. Then came the trouble between the Hudson's Bay company and the North-West Trading company and agricultural operations were almost altogether suspended for the time. The strife between the companies culminated in the battle by which Governor Semple, of the Hudson's Bay company, and twenty of his followers lost their lives, and twenty of the remaining colonists were driven from their land. Their fields, houses, and other property were destroyed and they themselves took refuge in the company's forts at Lake Winnipeg.

In 1820-21 the rival companies were united and the settlers went back to their land. In 1826 another disaster overtook them in the shape of a Red River flood which swept away houses, barns, fences and other property, leaving the settlers without homes or food in consequence of which the majority of them decided to abandon the country, leaving in June for Fort Snelling in the United States. Those who remained set to work at once and despite the lateness of the season put in crops of wheat about the latter end of June and afterwards rebuilt their homes. In the fall, notwithstanding the lateness of the seeding, they reaped a bountiful harvest. From that day to this, wheat and all other suitable grains and vegetables have been regularly produced from the lands of the Red River valley and the soil then under cultivation is still bearing crops with undiminished fertility.

Such were the beginnings of the great agricultural industry which is now the basis of the wealth and prosperity of this province. Other parts have been found by subsequent experience to be quite as capable of producing wheat as the valley of the Red River, and succeeding importations of settlers have flooded into various parts until to-day the province is covered with an almost unbroken succession of fields of waving grain which promise to yield a harvest that for both quality and quantity will be absolutely without precedent in the history of grain raising anywhere in the world.

A NEW WELSH SETTLEMENT.

How Farming Pays.—£919 Yielded by 250 Acres in a Single Season.

(From the Winnipeg "Free Press.")

STRIKING instances of the success that attends intelligent farming in the Canadian North-West come almost daily to the notice of the immigration officials, and are so common as to be dismissed with the remark, "Here's another letter from a fellow who has done well." Most of these simply express in general terms the satisfaction with which the immigrants regarded their success since coming to the North-West, but frequently the writer gives specific statements that are eloquent as to what the soil of the West, under intelligent and careful cultivation, will do for its owner. One such letter was that received from Mr. John Mears, who came to Canada from Cavalier county, North Dakota, two years ago. As a record of personal success, as well as on account of the agricultural information and advice it contains, it is here printed in full.

The financial results of Mr. Mears' operations in a single season can be here summarised:

Wheat, 3,000 bushels 1 hard at 57½c., \$1,785.00; 2,680 bushels 1 northern at 54c., \$1,457.20. Oats, 1,750 bushels at 35c., \$612.50; Spiltz, 154 bushels at 75c., \$115.50; flax, 324 bushels at \$2, \$628. Total, \$4,598.20.

A return of more than \$4,500 from a little over 250 acres—an average of \$18 per acre—is surely testimony sufficiently strong to satisfy the most incredulous as to the money to be made out of the soil of the Canadian West. It is to facts like these—arguments expressible and demonstrable in dollars and cents—that the steady northward movement of American farmers is due.

The last two paragraphs of Mr. Mears' letter are also noteworthy, as expressing the general satisfaction of the new comers with Canadian institutions.

His Personal Statement.

Mr. Mears' letter reads as follows:—

"Arcola, April 19, 1902.

"Dear Sir,—I came here from Milton, Cavalier Co., North Dakota, in spring,

1900. In May I broke 75 acres on section 18 and 19, tp. 8, rge. 4, west of 2nd. These were seeded into oats and flax, but destroyed by hail. During June and July of 1900 I broke 140 acres more. I bought 30 acres of old cultivated land, and in the spring of 1901 I broke 25 acres new land, disced the 215 I had broken in 1900, and into this land I sowed the 30 acres of old land and 200 acres of the breaking of 1900 in wheat; in the spring breaking of 1901 I put 22 acres in oats and 3 acres in spiltz.

"I intended to have put some of the land in flax, but my boys having seeded it with wheat, some three weeks after I crossed 36 acres of the wheat field with flax, a method sometimes practised on old wheat land in Dakota.

"From this acreage I harvested in the fall of 1901 5,680 bushels of wheat, of which 3,000 graded No. 1 hard at 57½c., and the rest No. 1 Northern at 54c.; 1,750 bushels of oats of splendid quality, which I am selling at 35c.; 154 bushels of spiltz, machine measure, as a return for 2½ bushels (100 lbs.) sown, for which I am now getting 75c.; and 324 bushels of flax. The flax gave nine bushels and the wheat 25 bushels to the acre of the combined sowing. I have sold all my flax at \$2 per bushel.

"I consider spiltz the best cereals for feed grown in this part of the country, because it yields better than barley, it will stand more drought, and will grow on poorer ground than any other cereal. It is a splendid feed ground up for all kind of stock, and the yield of cream is doubled in cows fed on it. The results are astonishing to those who have not tried it.

"I have had twenty-six years' experience in Minnesota and Dakota in buying grain, including flax, and have seen some of the best flax-producing districts there, but I never saw any district so well adapted as this to the growth of flax.

"There are only three countries where flax is grown extensively. These are North America, Argentine Republic, and Russia, and the demand is likely to keep pace with the supply. So it is certain that the present price of flax will be maintained.

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"Whenever you can get a big crop of wheat you can get as many bushels per acre of flax as you can of wheat, and in a dry season you can get more flax than wheat. A crop of flax wants as good a seed bed as any other grain, yet even on spring breaking large crops have already been grown here. Besides my own case there is that of Joseph Kennedy, who, last year (on Sec. 2, Tp. 10, Range 10, W. of 2nd) put flax on 20 acres of spring, breaking and realised 25 bushels to the acre, all of which was sold for \$2 for seed. On land which yields 30 bushels of wheat to the acre, 30 bushels of flax can be grown with the same cultivation.

"The sewing of flax on newly broken sod does not prevent that sod from rotting; for flax sends its root straight down through the soil to the moist subsoil beneath ere it sends out any side roots. It must be sown very shallow.

"The small quantity of seed required is another thing to be noticed. One half a bushel (28 lbs.) is required on sod, and about 20 lbs. on well tilled land.

"I have now 330 acres ready for crop this spring, and will break at least 100 more. This is an indication of how the immigrants now coming from the States will rapidly put the country under cultivation. I have been followed here by 70 of my neighbours in Cavalier country who are settled around Arcola.

"The greatest detriment of immigration into this part of Canada from the United States has been the low prices of land. People there could not believe that such cheap land could be any good.

"Some had a notion that a man enjoyed less freedom in Canada, but they soon found their mistake and find the laws of Canada the most liberal in the world, and such as prevent the litigation which breeds so much bad feeling between people in the United States and costs them so dear in lawyer's fees."

Yours truly,
JOHN R. MEARS.

The following is an extract from a letter which was written to the Committee interested in the removal of the Welshmen from Patagonia to Canada, giving a description of the lands which have been selected for this Colony:—

"As you are probably aware the lands near Saltcoats were reserved at the request of those Welshmen who left this country at the beginning of April. Every facility

was placed at the disposal of those settlers for inspecting all desirable districts, and as the Government officials procured free transportation for the Welsh leaders and placed an experienced guide at their disposal, and as the settlers are thoroughly experienced, it may readily be inferred that they have made no mistake. It is well to bear in mind that the location is the spontaneous choice of the settlers, and no pressure whatever has been exercised to influence them.

The fertility of the soil at Saltcoats is wonderful. It is a deep, loamy deposit, which produces from 25 to 35 bushels of hard wheat to the acre, and 45 to 60 bushels of oats, and some years yields have been known to reach 80 or 90 bushels to the acre. Vegetables yield splendidly, cabbages grow 10 to 12 lbs. in weight. Turnips will yield 20 lbs. to the acre and other vegetables do equally well.

A steer fed entirely upon the grasses and hay which grow in great profusion in the locality fetch, at three years old, 40 to 50 dollars.

I do not know that I need say anything more to prove the great fertility of the soil about Saltcoats.

The district is dotted with lakes and tracts of timber, and there is water from pure springs, around which a great abundance of most nutritious hay is found.

As to the climate in this district, it is as good as any part of Assiniboina. I think it is much healthier than this country. Disease is little known. Spring commences about the first of April. Some seasons however, seeding is begun early in March. Spring scarcely puts in an appearance before it is followed by summer, and it is almost impossible to describe the delights of that pleasant season, with its long days and cool nights. It is in this fact we find an explanation of the extraordinarily rapid growth of vegetation which, under the influence of this long-continued sunshine, exceeds anything known in lower latitudes. The autumn season is one of the most delightful that can be imagined. The winters, while cold, are sunny and bright. The dread with which timorous people regard them, disappears with experience. It is difficult to obtain from the reading of the record of temperature any idea of the comforts or discomforts that prevail. It is well known that humidity is of equal importance, probably of greater importance, while the velocity of the wind is of no less importance."

Government Agencies.

INTENDING settlers in Canada are advised to communicate with the nearest Agent of the Canadian Government in Great Britain before they leave. These officers will supply not only the latest pamphlets relating to Canada, but any other information that may be required relating to free grants, improved farms, land regulations, demand for labour, rates of wages, and all other particulars of interest to their correspondents. They also issue letters of introduction to the Government Agents in Canada. Pamphlets and information are supplied free, and may be obtained either on application to

THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA
(Mr. W. T. R. PRESTON, Commissioner of Emigration), 17, Victoria Street,
London, S.W.

Mr. A. F. JURY, 15, Water Street, Liverpool.

Mr. G. H. MITCHELL, Canadian Government Agent, Birmingham.

Mr. W. L. GRIFFITH, "Western Mail" Buildings, Cardiff.

Mr. H. M. MURRAY, 52, St. Enoch Square, Glasgow.

Mr. C. R. DEVLIN, Commissioner of Immigration, 14, Westmoreland Street, Dublin.

Mr. E. O'KELLY, 3, Albert Square, Belfast.



On reaching Canada the nearest Government Agent should be consulted.

The Commissioner of Immigration for Western Canada is stationed at Winnipeg, Manitoba. Agencies are also established at the following places:— Halifax, St. John, Quebec, Montreal, Winnipeg, and at all the principal places in the Dominion.

They should be immediately applied to on arrival. All complaints should be addressed to them. They will furnish information as to lands open for settlement, farms for sale, demand for employment, rates of wages, routes of travel, and all other matters of interest to settlers, and will receive and forward letters and remittances, &c. The object is to facilitate communication between persons seeking work and those who may have need of their services. No fees are charged.